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年上ノ彼女（ヒト）

Mysterious
Love
Comedy

YAから生まれた美少女&
アウトローコミック誌
ヤングアニマル
Arashi 嵐
偶数月第1金曜日発売!!

本能ドキドキ!!の
美少女コミック誌
ヤングアニマル
ANIMAL
毎月第2・第4金曜日発売!!

AGEHA DISAPPEARS... AND WHEN TSUTOMU PURSUES HER TO HER HOMETOWN, MANY MYSTERIES BEGIN TO UNRAVEL... VOLUME 2 OF THE POPULAR MYSTERIOUS LOVE COMEDY♡ BEGINS... CUTE AND ECCHI! ♡♡

Jacket Design/Hisao Ogawa ◆ Blue in Green

JETS COMICS

2

年上ノ彼女(ヒト)

Mysterious Love Comedy

甘詰留太

RYUTA AMAZUME

年上ノ彼女(ヒト)……2

甘詰留太

白泉社
702

年上ノ彼女

2

甘詰留太

RYUTA AMAZUME

ヒト

Toshiue no Hito (An Older Woman)

年上ノ彼女ヒト 2

Mysterious Love Comedy

CASE.6 Missing... 3

CASE.7 Reunited!? 31

CASE.8 Big Confession!! 59

CASE.9 Overflowing Feelings... 87

CASE.10 On the Troin... 115

CASE.11 The First Night... 143

I'M HOME...
W...WELCOME HOME TSUTOMU-KUN...
A-AAH...
BA-!
AH!!
click
WHAT? THE LIGHTS ARE OFF...
OSANAI-SAAAN, AREN'T YOU HERE?
GEEZ THERE YOU ARE
IT'S MY TURN TONIGHT RIGHT!?
I'LL HURRY AND GET DINNER READY
AH! IT'S OK
I ALREADY MADE IT
I'M SORRY ABOUT THESE PAST FEW DAYS...
OH, SO YOU DID...
SSSSS
MAKING YOU DO ALL THE COOKING
DON'T WORRY ♡

年上/彼女

年上ノ彼女（ヒト）

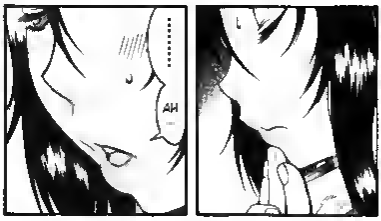
Toshiue no Hito

CASE 6. Missing...

IF I FAIL JUST TWO I HAVE TO REPEAT MY WHOLE YEAR
THE LIT. DEPARTMENT IS REALLY STRICT...

WELL...
IN-CLASS EXAMS FROM NOW UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR
AND I CAN'T MISS ANY OF THEM
TSUTOMU-KUN HOW'S YOUR EXAM SCHEDULE LOOK?
clatter
clatter
clatter

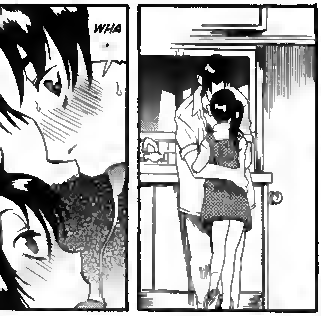
FINAL EXAMS FOR CONTINUING STUDIES ARE AFTER THE NEW YEAR, RIGHT?
LUCKY YOU...


.....
AH...

UMM...

OH!
SPEAKING OF REPEATING A YEAR... MY FATHER CALLED TODAY!

"IF YOU HAVE TO REPEAT A YEAR..." GIVE ME A BREAK ALREADY
Clatter
Clatter
EVEN I'M CAPABLE OF UNDERSTANDING THAT MUCH...
Also
THEY'RE TELLING ME TO COME HOME FOR NEW YEAR'S
Ah, yeah
ARE YOU GOING HOME TOO OSANAI-SAN
Um
Ah... damn it...
WOULD IT BE BEST TO GO... BACK?
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT...
Oops
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
...
...
I... I DON'T KNOW...
REALLY... WHAT SHOULD I DO...
OSANAI-SAN?
Hehe


WHA
.

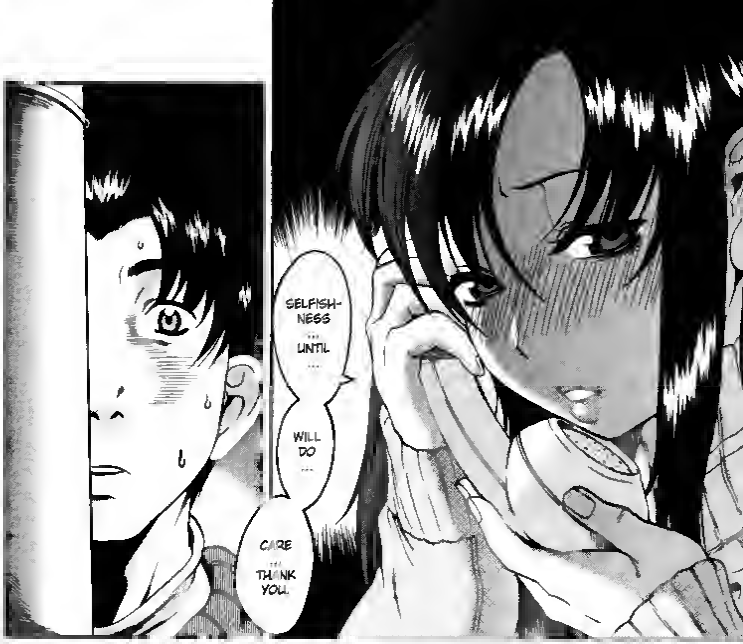
A...
AAH..
UM...
SHOPE♡
SQUI♡

I'M SORRY
CAN YOU WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER
HOW LONG IS A LITTLE
LONGER?
OSANAI-SAN?
JUST KIDDING ♡
I JUST WANTED TO BULLY YOU A LITTLE...
MAN ...
flu...
shhh
OSANAI-SAN'S ACTING SO ODD LATELY
MAYBE SOMETHING'S BOTHERING HER...
THAT ... THAT IS...

I STILL CAN'T GET HARD WHEN I SHOULD
I GUESS YEAH, SHE'S OBVIOUSLY STRESSED ABOUT IT
SOME-THING ABOUT ME ?
YEAH IT'S GOT TO BE
THAT TIME ... SHE SAID WE HAVE TIME... AND THAT SHE'D WAIT FOR ME ...
AH, GEEZ
scratch
scratch
OR AM I JUST THINKING ABOUT THIS TOO MUCH?
SO FRUSTRATING ...

3RD YEAR EXAM INFO
CHATTER
CHATTER
3RD YEAR EXAM INFO
CHATTER
AH!
MAYBE OSANAI-SAN'S
TROUBLED ABOUT HER PAST...
TSUTOMU!! YOU GOT TO TELL ME WHERE YOU'RE LIVING NOW!!
SE!? SEN-PAI ...
CHOKE
I'M DEFINITELY COMING OVER SOME-TIME THIS YEARRR
Tell Ageha-chan to come by the club room some time!!
HE'S SURE NOT SUFFERING FROM ANY-THING
COUGH
COUGH
I'M!? GOING TO DIE!! SENPAI!!
HOGG-ING AGEHA-CHAN FOR YOUR-SELF, YOU..
I'VE BEEN WITH HER NOW...
FOR OVER HALF A YEAR... AND I HAVEN'T ASKED ABOUT HER PAST...
I RE-MEMBER SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT RUNNING AWAY FROM A GUY...
WHAT'S TROUBLING OSANAI-SAN NOW
ME AND THAT MYSTERY GIRL... WAY BACK WHEN... IS PROB-ABLY

IT'S ABOUT TIME
YEAH
I SHOULD ASK HER ABOUT HER PAST
IT'S NOT GOOD TO STAY LIKE THIS
scribble scribble
I ASKED!
OH
OSA NAI-SAN
YES
YES
I UNDER-STAND
OKAA SAMA
THAT
YES


SELFISHNESS ... UNTIL ...
WILL DO ...
CARE ... THANK YOU.

I'VE GOT TO ASK, OSANAI-SAN
Y... YEAH
SOME LUCK HUH?
I TURN AROUND AND YOU'RE SUDDENLY STANDING RIGHT THERE
YOU SURPRISED ME...
SO ASK, TSUTOMU!!
HEY
ABOUT HER PAST... OR WHATEVER IT IS THAT'S TROUBLING HER...
IT'LL BE OK... SHE'LL TELL ME

BONK
"RUNNING AWAY..."
...AHH, STUPID...
AAH... NO, NOT AT ALL!!
DOKI
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT THE PHONE CALL?
Why is I'm me always sucks?
That was my chance...
ME...
YOU KNOW ...
THAT WAS ...
MY MOTHER ...
GETTING MAD AT ME...
SAYING, "YOU'RE TOO OLD ..."
TO BE WANDERING AROUND AND" ...

I COULDN'T TALK BACK ...

AS SHE STOOD THERE...
ARMED WITH THAT SMILE... I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO ASK HER...
...NYTHING.

TOMORROW I'LL ASK...
...TOMORROW
Pedoo

Mm

?
GOOD MORNING
LIM
?
Out for a walk?

Dear Tsutomu-kun,
I'm sorry, I know it's sudden,
but I have to leave for now.
I paid half a year's worth of rent
on the room, so don't worry ♥
Good luck on your exams!
Don't repeat your year!!
Ageha
BUT...
THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY TOMORROW, EVER AGAIN.
TMP
TMP
TMP
OSANAI-SAN?
OSANAI-SAN!?
OSA-NAI-SAN..
OSANAI-SAN!!
OSANAI-SAN!?
OSANAI-SAN!?
OSA...
OSANAI-SAN
WAS STILL MISSING, TWO DAYS LATER.

HEY HEY
YOU KNOW OSAI-NAI-SAN?
SAY
UM...
PEOPLE DIDN'T TALK MUCH IN THAT CLASS
NO SORRY I DON'T KNOW
AH, HER. THE SHORT GIRL
IS IT TRUE THAT SHE LOOKS LIKE A LITTLE GIRL!?
BUT REALLY, SHE'S OVER 30 YEARS OLD AND MARRIED!!
AND HAS TWO KIDS IN THE COUNTRY!?
OH!?

BECAUSE I NEVER TRIED TO KNOW
NO ONE IN THE CLASS-ROOM KNOWS
CON-TACTING THE UNI-VERSITY IS TOO EXTREME
SHE

MIGHT BE BACK
yeah right

O!! OSANAI-SAN!!
HUG

I DON'T KNOW !!
WHA !?
AH !?
YUP
I DON'T KNOW

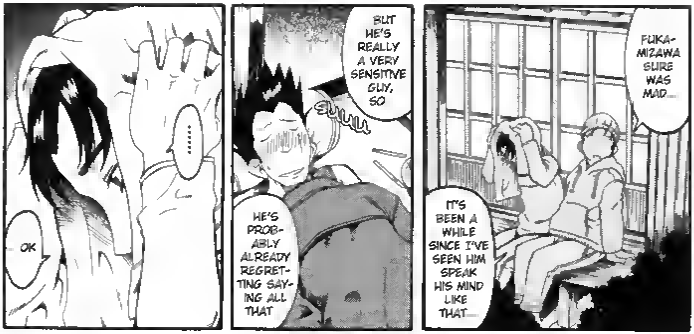
SQZ
SQZ?
WHA!? MORINO!?
TSU... TSUTOMU-KUN?
AH♥
YOU'RE BAACK!
SORRY THE DRUNKS FOUND THEIR WAY HERE...
TSUTOMU!! BRING OUT AGEHA-CHAN!!
WHA-
SEN-PAI!?
AHH
HERE
ACTUALLY...
WE GOT THE ADDRESS FROM THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE...
FUKAMI-ZAWA-KUN HARASSED THEM FOR IT...
HEH
SORRY WE CAME WITHOUT PERMIS-SION.
...BUT
We went with the flow of being drunk...
SSSS
SSSS
HO

AND DID YOU SEARCH PROPERLY!!? TSUTOMU!!
HAHH
WE HAVEN'T SEEN OSANAI-SAN RECENTLY EITHER
SINCE THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RARELY HAS CLASSES
DIDN'T OSANAI-SAN MENTION ANYTHING?
GLUG
NOTHING ABOUT A SUDDEN ABSENCE
COULD SHE HAVE GONE HOME?
GLUG
WELL, THE THING WITH THAT IS...
I DID!!
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY CLUE WHERE SHE MIGHT BE...
MAYBE SHE JUST WENT HOME FOR A FUNERAL OR A FESTIVAL?
EH?
CAN'T YOU CONTACT HER HOME?
I... DON'T KNOW HER HOME PHONE NUMBER.
REALLY? AND HER ADDRESS?
REALLY, I...
DON'T KNOW...
EVEN IF I KNEW I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD CALL...
Hhh...
SINCE I DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THE SITUATION IS
EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN WITH HER FOR OVER HALF A YEAR.
PLUS, I'VE GOT EXAMS STARTING TOMORROW

GLUP
GLUP
GLUP
I'M HELPLE-
AND NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT
JUST BECAUSE I WAS KIND TO HER AND DID THINGS SHE WANTED
LIKE LIVING TOGETHER, AND MOVING TO THIS PLACE
I DON'T THINK I REALLY HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK... EVEN IF SHE SUDDENLY DIDN'T MIND TALKING ABOUT IT
JUST DROP ...
drip
drip
THIS "I'M THE VICTIM" ATTITUDE!!

GOT CONFESSED TO, GOT PESTERED INTO LIVING TOGETHER
HAD FUN PLAYING HOUSE
AND THEN WHEN SHE DISAPPEARS IT'S "OH, I'M HELPLESS!"
AHAHA
ONLY A WEAK IMPOTENT BASTARD WOULD SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT
YOU SURE YOU AREN'T REALLY THINKING, "HEY, I WAS JUST BEING KIND TO HER, PRETENDING SHE HAD NO IDENTITY!"
SEN-PAI !!
GRR
BRING IT ON, IMPOTENT BASTARD!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW!!
YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO RUN AWAY FROM YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AFTER HAVING SEX!!
YOU DISGUST ME!!
DREAM GIRL!? TRAUMA!? POOR YOU, HUH!?
WHETHER YOU CAN GET A HARD-ON OR NOT!!
STUPID !!

IT'S BULL-SHIT!!
I'VE BEEN CONSTANTLY PISSED OFF AT YOUR SELF-CENTERED "KINDNESS"!!
NO, FROM BEFORE THAT
YOU KNOW!! EVER SINCE OSANAI-SAN CAME...
YOU KNOW THE REASON WHY YOU'RE SUCH A LIMP-DICK!?
YOU DON'T LET ANY-THING THROUGH YOU!!
EVEN WHEN IT'S ABOUT GIRLS!!
TOM-TOMI!!
POW!


FUKA-MIZAWA SUIRE WAS MAD...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN HIM SPEAK HIS MIND LIKE THAT...
BUT HE'S REALLY A VERY SENSITIVE GUY, SO
HE'S PROB-ABLY ALREADY REGRET-TING SAY-ING ALL THAT
OK

YKNOW, EVEN THOUGH IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS FOOLING AROUND...
HE WAS QUITE SERIOUS
ABOUT OSANAI-SAN

ACTUALLY... YOU MORE THAN THE REST BUT... NONE OF THE CLUB MEMBERS HAVE BEEN SEEING MUCH OF EACH OTHER RECENTLY
SORRY
I DIDN'T MENTION IT BECAUSE I WANTED AN APOLOGY
TO TELL THE TRUTH WHAT MATTERS RIGHT NOW ISN'T THE CLUB OR ROMANTIC LOVE...
We're all adults after all
NO.

BUT RIGHT NOW, YOU HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION
ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT TO DO— OK!?
IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S NOT OK
IT'S NOT BAD TO GO WITH THE FLOW AND JUST REACT TO SITUATIONS SOMETIMES
OK...
OOKU
SHOVE
!?
whisper
IT'S OK!
whisper
NO IT'S NOT!
GULP

...
UH...
UH!! YOU KNOW...
IT PISSES ME OFF!!
I... STILL LOVE YOU, TSUTOMU-KUN...
SO... IF YOU WORRY ABOUT ME AND STUFF...
I'M REALLY HAPPY....
REALLY...
REALLY HAPPY, BUT...

TSU-TOMU-KUN...
YOU LOVE OSANAI-SAN, RIGHT?
WHEN I DON'T HAVE A CHANCE AND YOU LET ME LOVE YOU...
IT'S REALLY TOUGH...
SAY IT
YOU HAVE BALLS, DON'T YOU!?
I DO LOVE...
HER...

THERE!!
.....
ACHE...
SHIVER
WHAT'S WITH THAT OUTFIT
RING RING
UHGG
WHAT'S THAT HAND FOR!?
?

GOING TO BRING BACK ...
OSANAI-SAN.
I'M GOING TO HARASS THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE FOR HER HOME ADDRESS AND GO FROM THERE
I'LL LOOK EVERYWHERE PROPERLY UNTIL I FIND HER AND I WON'T BE BACK UNTIL I DO
AT LEAST LEND ME THE TRAVELLING EXPENSES
YOU...

THAT'S GOING TOO FAR...
SOOO CHOOO !!
AAH HOW MUCH DO YOU NEED?
GOOD LUUCK !!
DON'T COME BAAACK !!
TSU-TOMU!! YOU HEAR ME
YOU MUST!! PAY ME BACK!! BY FEBRUARY!!

[CASE 6: End]

TADUM
This girl...
WHAT A CRAZY TAN
TADUM
SNKKK
Suuuu...
FILL MY HEART
LONGING AND EXPECTATION AND UNCERTAINTY
I HELD OUT AT THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE UNTIL THEY GAVE ME WHAT I ASKED FOR...
OSANAI-SAN'S (HOME?) ADDRESS... WHICH I RECOGNIZED
D.DUM
DADUM
AS THE SCENERY BECOMES MORE AND MORE FAMILIAR...
Plop
TADUM
TADUM
THE COUNTRYSIDE WHERE GRANDPA LIVED
...IT'S CLOSER TO DAD'S HOUSE THAN I REMEMBER.
WILL OSANAI-SAN BE
TADUM DADUM
IN THE SCENERY THAT I KNOW ?
WILL I BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO HER ?

年上ノ彼女

Toshiue no Hito
年上ノ彼女ヒト
CASE 7. Reunited!?
OKAY... I'LL START OFF BY VISITING THIS ADDRESS
UM HUH?
THIS IS IT RIGHT?
GOOD LUCK !!
SORRY ♡ DID I DROOL ON YOU?
EHH CLUB PRACTICE IS SO EXHAUSTING...
YOU ON VACATION?
THERE'S NOTHING HERE THO
WHAT GIVES? ♡
YEAH
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE
Ooh, a girl!? A lover!? You're following that really special someone that you can't stop thinking about and you

I'M SURE...
THIS IS THE SAME KIND OF PLACE FROM BACK WHEN... BUT...
...COULD OSANAI-SAN BE A SEQUESTERED DAUGHTER?
UM... EXCUSE ME...
shk shk
DOES OSANAI ...
DOES OSANAI IGEKI-SAN LIVE HERE?
STARE
UHHH...

ピンポーン
AH... UM...
TAKE A LOOK AT THE NAME-PLATE, WHY DON'T YOU?
AH BU... BUT!?
UM... WHA!?
creak
UM !!
SLAM!
AH !!
I HIT A BUMP RIGHT OFF THE BAT...
I'M SURE IT'S SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE...
I SHOULD... LOOK AROUND A BIT.

KAORU-SAN?
YES!
YES, OKU-SAMA?
I THOUGHT I HEARD A MAN'S VOICE JUST NOW...
WAS THERE A VISITOR?
NO, OKU-SAMA
NO ONE...
IS THAT SO...

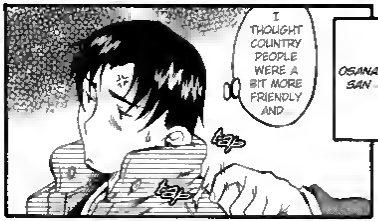
AGEHA-SAN...
HOW ARE YOU?
ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW?
YOU RAN AWAY FOR A YEAR...
NO...
DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, AGEHA-SAN
I'M NOT BLAMING YOU...
rustle
rustle
I ONLY... WANT TO MAKE SURE...
YOU
AREN'T GOING TO RUN AWAY AGAIN, RIGHT

clench
.....
YES
DON'T YOU ALSO
DISAPPEAR ON ME.... NEVER AGAIN....
...YES
OKAA-SAN...

WELL I KNEW THIS WASN'T GOING TO BE EASY
I CAN'T FIND AN "OSANAI" NAME-PLATE ANY-WHERE
I'M NOT PLAN-NING ON GIVING UP BUT...
Ah, another KOBAN-yashi...
THAT FIRST PLACE WAS REALLY SUSPI CIOUS
IT JUST BAFFLES ME
Ahhh
OSA-NAI-SAN...
I WONDER
OH!
HMM!
OSANAI-SAN WHERE ARE YOU...?

WOULD YOU BE THE "MODERNLY-DRESSED SUSPICIOUS PERSON?"
WHA!?

CAN YOU TELL ME IF ANYONE WITH THE LAST NAME OF OSANAI
UH?
shuffle shuffle


OSANAI-SAN...
I THOUGHT COUNTRY PEOPLE WERE A BIT MORE FRIENDLY AND...
tap
tap

HER NAME IS OSANAI AGEHA
PLEASE!! I'M DEAD SERIOUS!
DO YOU AT LEAST KNOW ANYONE WITH THE NAME AGEHA?

I'VE TOLD YOU SEVERAL TIMES, I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE!
ARE YOU HOME-LESS?
WHY ARE YOU PEEKING INTO HOUSES ALL OVER TOWN?
NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, IT'S STILL SUSPI-CIOUS!
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A LAST NAME LIKE "OSA-NAI"
CAM

W WAIT A SEC AGEHA... AGEHA
NO! WHY SHOULD I HELP SUCH A SUSPI-CIOUS
LIKE I SAID, I'M...

THEN
THERE'S A BIG HOTEL THREE STATIONS FURTHER DOWN
NO UM... I WANT TO STAY HERE IN THIS TOWN
LIH
NO!! THERE'S NO INN HERE FOR YOU TO STAY AT!!
WHA!?

RRRR RROW LLL

I'LL ONLY ASK YOU TO DIRECT ME TO AN INN
YOU BETTER NOT BE THINKING OF SAYING "ORDER SOME KATSUDON FOR ME!"

AREN'T YOU A POLICE OFFICER!? IF YOU KNOW ONE, TELL ME!!
TELL YOU, A POOR STUDENT STILL LEECHING OFF HIS PARENTS!? WITH THE GALL TO LEAN ON THE GENER-OSITY OF OTHERS!?
THERE'S NO INN FOR SOME-ONE LIKE THA-
ONII-SAN ♡ HMM~?
AH...
WHO'S THAT? A CRIMINAL? YOU CAUGHT ONE!?
OH!
IIYAKA! IS THAT DINNER?
AHH! AT LUNCH TIME! ON THE TRAIN!!
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
HM?
ROWL

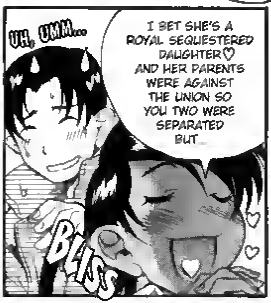
SO...
THIS GUY'S TROUBLED...
My chestnut
YOU MIGHT SAY THAT...
BUT IF HE'S TRAVELLING AROUND WITHOUT ANY PLAN...
Mumble
PEOPLE LIKE THIS RUIN JAPAN'S...
IT'S HIS OWN FAULT! AND WHAT ABOUT HIS UNIVERSITY CLASSES? JEEZ...
Mumble
THEN...
HE CAN STAY AT OUR INN!
This chikuzen-ni is SO GOOD!
SORRY
SORRY
WHA!!?
AYAKA, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
What are you saying!?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BECAME A COP TO "HELP TROUBLED PEOPLE"
AAAH! AYAKA GIVE ME THAT CELL! STOP IT!
AYAKA!! YOU...!!
EH!?
EH?
HEY, DAD! I'M BRINGING OVER A CUSTOMER. IT'S OK, RIGHT ♡
YEAH, HE'S TROUBLED ♡ OK, GOT IT!
WELL, THAT'S THAT
OK ♡
YOU'RE GOING TO STAY, RIGHT?

INN TSUZUREYA
I'M HOME
I BROUGHT THE CUST-OMERRR
SO SORRY TO INTRUDE
I'M SORRY. IT'S A DIRTY LITTLE INN. BUT PLEASE BEAR WITH US
OH, THE ONE SHE MEN-TIONED ON THE PHONE
ARE YOU OK WITH THE "MOUSE ROOM?"
SHOULD BE FINE, NO?
NO com-plaints for 3000 yen right?
OH, THE BATH IS NORMALLY OPEN ONLY UNTIL 5 PM, SO GO GET IN SOON BREAKFAST IS AT 7 AM
TH... THANKS AYAKA-SAN...
CALL ME AYA-CHAN
A... AYA-CHAN THANKS FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE
NO PROB YOU'RE PAYING AFTER ALL
HERE IT IS
TH... THANKS
AND... I WAS WONDER-ING...
?

NOW YOU'RE HERE TO RESCUE YOUR GIRLFRIEND AND CARRY HER AWAY AT THE LAST MINUTE FROM THE MAN HER PARENTS INTEND TO MARRY HER OFF TO WHILE SHE'S STILL IN HER WEDDING DRESS! ♡
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
PROBABLY.
OH.
IS THAT SO?

hehehe♡
DID YOU FIND YOUR GHHRRRL?

HEY!! IS SHE, LIKE, YOUR RUNAWAY LOVER?


UH, UMM...
I BET SHE'S A ROYAL SEQUESTERED DAUGHTER♡ AND HER PARENTS WERE AGAINST THE UNION SO YOU TWO WERE SEPARATED BUT...
BLUSH

Mutter, Mutter
LETTING HIM STAY KINDA TURNED OUT TO BE A LET-DOWN...
I heard that.
A GIRL WHO SPEAKS HER MIND
SIGH!
TAKE A BATH QUICKLY! IT'S ALREADY 9 PM.

splash...
HMM, SO THAT'S WHY YOU CAME OUT TO THE COUNTRY
YUP
Splsh
A GIRL-CHASING VACATION ♡
EHH... RIGHT
BUT I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A LAST NAME LIKE "OSANAI"
MOST PEOPLE AROUND HERE ARE CALLED "KOBAYASHI"
DIDN'T YOU FIND ANY OTHER CLUES? SHE DOES LIVE IN THIS TOWN, RIGHT?
...I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT EITHER.
IT'S JUST THAT... THE CONTACT ADDRESS I HAVE FOR HER IS...
YOU KNOW THAT BIG PLACE AT THE TOP OF THE HILL
splash
SHIMIZU-SAN'S PLACE!? YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH A GIRL FROM THAT PLACE!?

TOMORROW... I'M PLANNING TO VISIT THAT PLACE AGAIN.
scrub
scrub
BUT WERE THERE EVER ANY YOUNG GIRLS AT SHIMIZU-SAN'S PLACE?
BACK THEN... I KNOW THEY HAD A WEAK, SKINNY SON
I HEARD HE MARRIED
ONLY ONES LEFT ARE A WRINKLY GRANNY AND HER HELPER AND...
sploosh
EH, THE HELPER IS THE ONLY YOUNG PERSON THERE NOW
OSA-NAI-SAN
BUT HE PASSED AWAY LAST YEAR...
silence...
Huh?
HEYYY! ARE YOU ALIVE?
YOU'RE NOT DEPRESSED, ARE YOU? ARE YOU OK?
I'M ALIVE
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HER AGAIN. ♡
...MAYBE
YEAH... THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW FOR SURE...
hhsh

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING RIGHT NOW...
BUT I REALLY WISH I COULD SEE HER AGAIN...
BE-SIDES
I HAVEN'T ASKED HER ANY-THING AND...
SHE HASN'T TOLD ME ANY-THING
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVERY-THING TO END LIKE THIS!
I'M NOT VERY CONFI-DENT BUT...
sh sh

WHAT I REALLY WANT IS FOR OSANAI-SAN AND I TO BE REUNITED!
AFTER ALL THE TIME WE'VE SPENT TOGETHER...
I CAN'T HELP BUT BELIEVE THAT WE WILL BE

...IT'S OK TO THINK ARROGANTLY
RIGHT... OSANAI-SAN...?
THAT'S WONDERFUL!!
SO ROMANTIC ♡
LEAN
I'LL SUPPORT YOU IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE!
ASK ME ANYTHING ABOUT THE TOWN! I'LL COOPERATE!!
AAH!!

TOMORROW... THAT'S IT!!
AYA-CHAN!! AYA-CHAN, BE CAREFUL!!
I'LL GO WITH YOU TO SHIMIZU-SAN'S PLACE TOMORROW!
LET'S FIND OSANAI-SAN!!
AHHHH I CAN'T WAIT FOR TOMORROW...
TO WITNESS LOVE JUST LIKE IN A ROMANTIC DRAMA ♥
BLISS♥
AYA-CHAN, YOU'RE EXPOSED! EXPOSED!!
AAH!!
slip
AAH! AYA-CHAN!!
I'M FINE ♥ HELP ME UP
OSANAI-SAN
WHERE ARE YOU
AAH, AYA-CHAN, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GRABBING!

creak!

ARE YOU PERHAPS WAITING TO BE RESCUED?
KAORU-SAN?
ARE YOU PLANNING TO RUN AWAY AGAIN? OR...
YOU KEEP STARING OUTSIDE.
...YOU ARE...
IT'S JUST THAT WHEN I LOOK AT YOU NOW, I HAVE THIS DANGEROUS SUSPICION.
...OF COURSE
JUST
NON-SENSE
WHAT EXTREME SARCASM.
AT AN AGE NOW WHERE YOU SHOULDN'T BE DREAMING ABOUT A PRINCE ON A WHITE HORSE...

YOUR MOTHER
AND TOSHIAKI-SAMA
IT'S MY JOB
PLEASE DON'T BETRAY
SO
WHY ARE WE AT THE GRAVE-YARD?
I WELL, I REALIZED THAT I HAVEN'T VISITED GRANDPA'S GRAVE FOR ABOUT SEVEN YEARS
ARE YOU SCARED ABOUT GOING TO SHIMIZU-SAN'S PLACE?
HOW DOES SHE ALWAYS BLURT OUT EXACTLY WHAT I'M STRUGGLING WITH
I THINK IT'S JUST OVER THERE
Mm...
SLIP
SLIP

LET'S SEE
WHICH ONE IS OSANAI-SAN?
AAAYA-CHAAN!
DON'T TAKE MY PLANNER WITHOUT PERMISSION!!
WHICH ONE!? THE ONE WITH THE BIG BOOBS?
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR OSANAI-SAN TOO, SO ..
IT'D BE BETTER IF I KNEW HER FACE, RIGHT?
GIVE IT BACK!!

AGEHA-SAN?
...?

AOK!

GIVE IT BACK!
DOKI

KYAA !!
GIVE IT BA... AAA!!
SMASH!
HUSH!
HUSH!

AGEHA-SAN? WHERE ARE YOU GOING !?
NO
DASH!
IS IT

DO
KI

BUT
BOKUN
CAN'T BE
BOKI

BOKI
DOKUN
HERE OF ALL PLACES

Doki...
rustle
rustle
owww
aa...

AA
HUH?
AAAAH!! N-NO!!
HEAA-AAVY !!
∞∞HMF

NO !!
EHHH !!?
rub rub
A... AGEHA-SAN, SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
OSANAI-SAN, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK !!
I... I WAS ...
HUH?
OSANAI-SAN, WAIT!?
I HEARD A SCREAM AND I RAN HERE AND ...
I FIND YOU ALL OVER MY SISTER! AND IN BROAD DAYLIGHT TOO, YOU...!!
ONII-SAN, YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG!!
LET ME GO...!!
Sen-sual?
ONII-SAN!?

UM?
I MET IN FRONT OF SHIMIZU'S HOUSE
?
DID
YOU LOSE YOUR MIND FROM THE SHOCK?
MY EMOTIONS ARE OVERFLOWING
I'M JUST SO GLAD
S-SORRY FOR MAKING YOUR REUNION WITH OSANAI-SAN A HORRIBLE ONE
W WELL, IT WAS ALL VERY MISLEADING!
TH THAT PERSON

AHH... I WAS ABLE TO SEE HER AGAIN...
IT'S SLOPPY...
AGEHA-SAN...
YES?
YOUR MOUTH!

[CASE 7: End]

OSANAI-SAN! YOU'RE IN THERE, RIGHT!?
THIS IS THE SHIMIZU RESI-DENCE!
THERE'S NO ONE HERE WITH THE NAME OF OSANAI !!

PLEASE LEAVE! OR I'LL CALL THE POLICE!!
MOU!
OSA-NAI-SAN !!
...LET ME! IN!!
I JUST WANT TO... TALK TO HER!

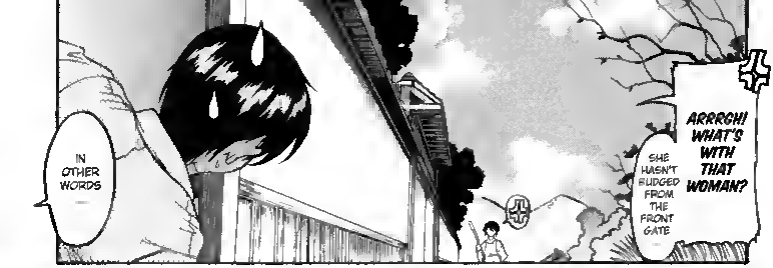
OSA-NAI-SAN !!
OSA-NAI-

THERE'S NO ONE HERE BY THE NAME OF... OSANAI!!
Go home!!
WHY ARE YOU HIDING HER!?
YOU WERE JUST WITH HER AT THE GRAVE-YARD!!
YEAH, YEAH !!

OSA-NAI-SAN !!

年上ノ彼女

年上ノ彼女
Toshiue no Hito
CASE 8. Big Confession!!
OSA-NAI-SAN !!

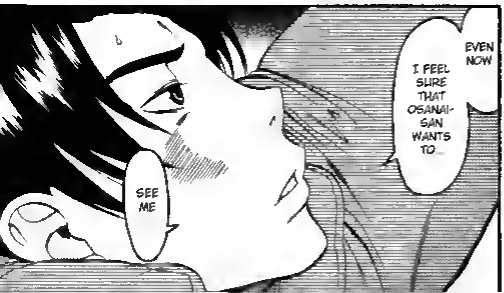

ARRRGH! WHAT'S WITH THAT WOMAN?
SHE HASN'T BUDGED FROM THE FRONT GATE...
IN OTHER WORDS...

UM... YOU SHOULD...
WAIT UNTIL DARK TO DO THAT...
...that's a crime, you know...
...and you're in plain sight.
UH?
YES! I KNOW...
BUT...

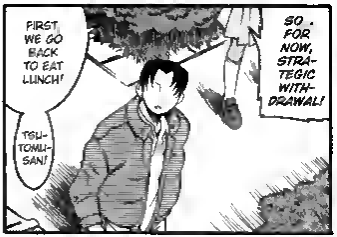
I DON'T KNOW WHY BUT...
IF THAT WOMAN DOESN'T WANT ME TO SEE HER...

THAT MUST MEAN SHE IS...
HERE, RIGHT?

THAT'S THINKING POSITIVELY...
HEY!

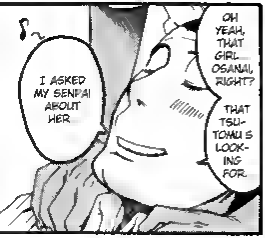

EVEN NOW I FEEL SURE THAT OSANAI-SAN WANTS TO...
SEE ME

CARRY OUT YOUR PLAN THIS EVENING! I PROMISE I'LL KEEP MY BROTHER BUSY ♡
THAT'S THE WAY!! THAT KIND OF OPEN-MINDED SELF-CONFIDENCE IS VERY IMPORTANT ♡


FIRST, WE GO BACK TO EAT LUNCH!
SO. FOR NOW, STRATEGIC WITHDRAWAL!
TSUTOMU-SAN!

TAP

OK!


I ASKED MY SENPAI ABOUT HER.
OH YEAH, THAT GIRL... OSANAI, RIGHT?
THAT TSUTOMU'S LOOKING FOR.

NO, NO YOU ALWAYS SEEM SO BUSY WITH YOUR JOB, SO
MMM I APPRECIATE IT, AYAKA
BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO HELP TSUTOMU SEARCH FOR HIS GIRL THIS EVENING
I WONDER IF HE'S SNUCK IN YET...

WHAT WHAT!?
AYAKA, YOU'RE STARTING TO CREEP ME OUT WITH ALL THESE NICE SERVICES
GEEEZ ONII-SAN♡
I'M JUST MASSAGING YOUR SHOULDERRRS

AAH! ANDI!?
OHNNN! AYAKA, STOP!!
GKK

WHEN I WAS A KID I DID THIS A LOT...
GRAB!
CLIMB-ING INTO PLACES LIKE THIS ONE TO EXPLORE
huff...
OWW !!
THUD!
crunch
crunch
BUT YEAH
Hustle
Hustle
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT THIS IS A SERIOUS CRIME...
DOKI
DOKI
SUCH A HUGE PLACE
WON-DER IF I CAN EVEN FIND OSANAI-SAN

OSA-NAI...
Splassh
EVEN AT THE GRAVE-YARD ...
Hmm... what's this room?
WANTS TO... SEE ME...
Freak
OSA-NAI-SHIN ...
IT'LL BE OK, OK!!
I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HER!
SHE PROB-ABLY ALSO ...

TSU-
TOMU...
KUN?

SORRY !!
I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS THE BATH-ROOM !!!
SLIP
TSU... TSU!?
TSU-TOMU KUN
H-!!
HOW DID YOU GET INSIDE THE GROUNDS !?
THE FRONT GATE IS SUPPOSED TO BE LOCKED!
AND... BESIDES !!
I NEVER... TOLD YOU MY AD-DRESS, OR GAVE YOU ANY CONTACT INFOR-MATION FOR MY FAMILY.
AH! TSUTOMU-KUN, UNIVER-SITY!?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR EXAMS!? YOUR ENTIRE YEAR DEPENDS ON THEM, RIGHT!?
I JUST WANTED TO...

TO... SEE YOU ONCE MORE...
IS THAT...
NOT ENOUGH REASON?
SOB...
BUT!!
AT LUNCH!! YOU WERE OUT ON A DATE WITH SOME GIRL I DON'T EVEN KNOW!
THA! THAT WAS!!
THAT WAS BE-CAUSE, UM... AYA-CHAN ISN'T...

I WAS HAPPY ♡
Shy♡
I WAS REALLY HAPPY...
Hug♡
TO SEE YOU ...
ONCE AGAIN

HOW COULD I...
HOW...
HUG.
Sigh
OH... I'M GLAD.
?
BECAUSE! YOU DISAPPEARED WITHOUT LEAVING ANY CONTACT INFORMATION...
I THOUGHT YOU'D COME TO... HATE ME...
I... I HAVE A LOT TO ASK YOU AND TELL YOU...
UM.
blush
LET'S GO BACK TO TOKYO FIRST!
EVERYONE... IS WAITING...

CAN'T GO BACK TO TOKYO
I—
SORRY
MY NAME ISN'T OSANAI
OSANAI IS MY MAIDEN NAME
I'M
WHA!?
O!! OSA-NAI-SAN!?
NO!!
I'M
REALLY

I'M...
A WIDOW.

DO YOU REMEMBER SHIMIZU-SAN'S ONLY SON?
HE DIED LAST YEAR
AAH, THAT SKINNY GUY WHO WAS SUP-POSEDLY A PICTURE BOOK ARTIST?
THEY DIDN'T LET HER GO OUT
SHE WAS INFIRM, AND RARELY SPOKE
SE-QUES-TERED WIFE, HUH
HE MARRIED A REALLY BEAUTIFUL LADY 10 YEARS AGO
BUBBLE
WHA!? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT
AND HER HUSBAND WAS INFAT-UATED WITH HER
FUUU
FUUU
BUT, AS THEY FEARED... SHE PASSED AWAY AFTER A YEAR
WA POLICE STATION

I
WAS MARRIED INTO THIS FAMILY BEFORE I EVEN GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL
HER HUSBAND WAS EXTREMELY DEPRESSED
SIGH...
HIS FAMILY WAS WORRIED ABOUT HIM, AND SO THEY FOUND HIM A REPLACEMENT WIFE
AT THAT TIME SHE WAS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
SHE LOOKED JUST LIKE HIS PREVIOUS WIFE... HER SISTER.
THAT GIRL WAS OSANAI AGEHA
TSUTOMU IS SEARCHING FOR
THAT'S WHO
SOME PEOPLE SAID I WAS TOO YOUNG THAT IT WOULD JUST BE MAKING ME INTO
A CONCUBINE OR SOMETHING BUT I...
WAS OK WITH IT...
I WAS SAD ABOUT MY SISTER PASSING AWAY BUT...
I WAS HAPPY WITH MY LIFE HERE
OKAA-SAMA ALWAYS TREATED ME
JUST LIKE I WAS HER REAL DAUGHTER
EVEN TOSHIAKI-SAN

TOSHIAKI-SAN OFTEN USED ME AS A MODEL...
TO PAINT ON A SUNNY DAY..
...I WAS HAPPY...
...IT FELT LIKE I WAS LOVED...
WHAT I'D NEVER NOTICED IN 9 YEARS OF MARRIAGE
I REALIZED
AFTER TOSHIAKI-SAN PASSED AWAY...
BUT...
whoooo...
MAYBE I JUST PRETENDED NOT TO NOTICE
NO

SOB...

ALL THE PAINTINGS HE HAD DONE...
THE EYES, THE EXPRESSIONS, AND ALL THE SMALL DETAILS...
WERE NOT OF ME
TOSHIAKI-SAN WAS...

PAINTING MY SISTER ALL ALONG...
WHEN HE LOOKED AT ME, HELD ME...
HE WAS ALWAYS... THINKING ABOUT MY SISTER.

I THOUGHT, IF I JUST LEFT THIS HOUSE, I'D BE ABLE TO FIND A DIFFERENT SELF.
AND I RAN AWAY ...
I WON-DERED... WHAT HAD MY 9 YEARS BEEN FOR?
I WAS SAID ...
LIKE I HATE HIM... IT'S JUST THAT ...
...IT'S NOT ...
TO EXPERIENCE WHAT IT WAS LIKE, TO BE A UNIVERSITY STUDENT ...
STARTING A LIFE ON MY OWN ...
...AND TO BE ...
WAS RUNNING AWAY TO A NEW BEGINNING
IN A ROMANTIC RELATION-SHIP WITH TSUTOMU-KUN, TOO.
YES...

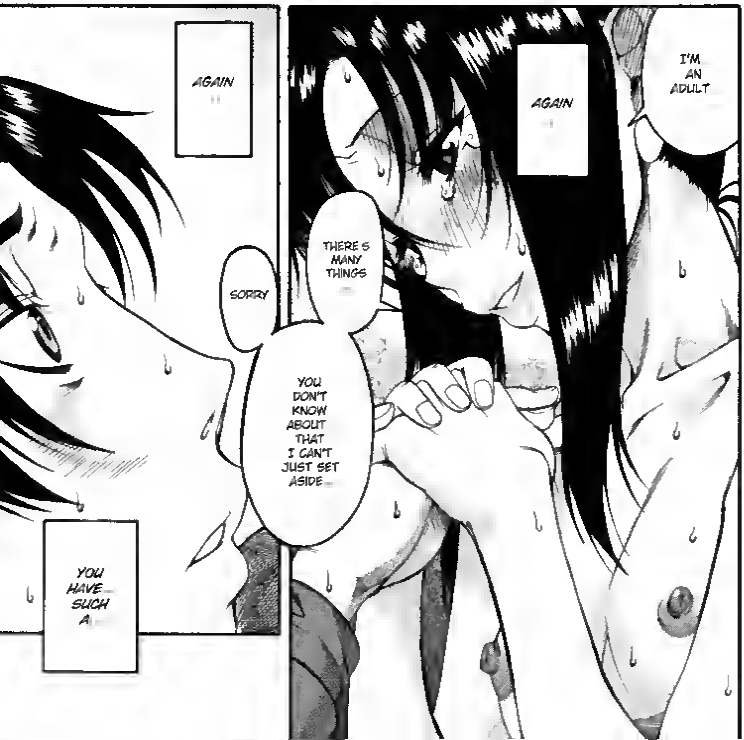
I WANTED TO ENJOY A NORMAL ROMANTIC LOVE LIKE I COULDN'T HAVE BACK *THEN*
I WANTED TO DO ALL THE THINGS I COULDN'T DO IN THOSE 9 YEARS THAT I LOST
IT WAS REAL-LY ...
FUN
EVEN IF IT WAS
IT WAS JUST A *DREAM* I WAS BOUND TO WAKE UP FROM...
WHAT !!!

..she's what 21?
SHE UNDERSTANDS THAT PROBABLY
SHE'S OLDER THAN ME! SHE'S AN ADULT.....
BUT !!
They love each other you know!! ...prossibly...
GAH!
OSANAI-SAN'S GOING TO DUMP TSUTOMU!?
OWN-SAN! HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT ...
DID YOU KNOW, AYAKA
THAT THESE EVENTS HAVE SUPPOSEDLY MADE SHIMIZU'S GRANNY QUITE ILL!?
HER ONLY BELOVED SON PASSING AWAY BEFORE HER...
AND THEN HER DAUGHTER-IN-LAW SUDDENLY RUNNING AWAY.....
FRANKLY, I'M ON HER SIDE
THAT'S WHY SHE CAME BACK! THERE'S NO GOOD EXCUSE
FOR A GROWN ADULT TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME AND CAUSE PROBLEMS
FINALLY DRAGGED BACK TO REALITY
NO... I KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING
OSANAI-SAN !!
...WHEN I READ ABOUT MOTHER'S ILLNESS I WAS.....
WHAT!? OSANAI-SAN!!
SO!! YOU'RE SAYING THAT THE LIFE WE HAD TOGETHER... WAS A DREAM !?

WHATEVER I DO... I'M 24 AND...
I'M AN ADULT
IT'S TOO LATE TO...
HIDE INSIDE A DREAM TO TRY TO FIND A DIFFERENT SELF...
OSA-NAI-SAN!
SOMEWHERE INSIDE OF ME THERE WAS ALWAYS A CALM VOICE...
SAYING... SOMEDAY I HAVE TO RETURN...
PLEASE LISTEN, OSA-NAI-SAN!
ALSO, THE REASON I DIDN'T EVER GIVE ANYBODY MY ADDRESS OR CONTACT INFORMATION... IS SO THAT...
I COULD COME BACK HERE WITHOUT ANYONE COMING AFTER ME.
I'M... AN UNFAIR WOMAN...
OSA-NAI-SAN!!
OSA-NAI-SAN!
I!!
I!!
I!!
OSA-NAI-SAN!!
OSA-NAI-SA...

I LOVE YOU, TSUTOMU-KUN!!!
....LOVE YOU... EVEN NOW.
reach...

SQZ...
tap
BUT YOU SEE...
MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M STILL A STUDENT
JUST HOLDING YOUR HANDS LIKE THIS...
AND THAT I CAN HAVE A NORMAL, ROMANTIC LOVE


AGAIN
I'M AN ADULT
AGAIN
THERE'S MANY THINGS
SORRY
YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT I CAN'T JUST SET ASIDE...
YOU HAVE... SUCH A

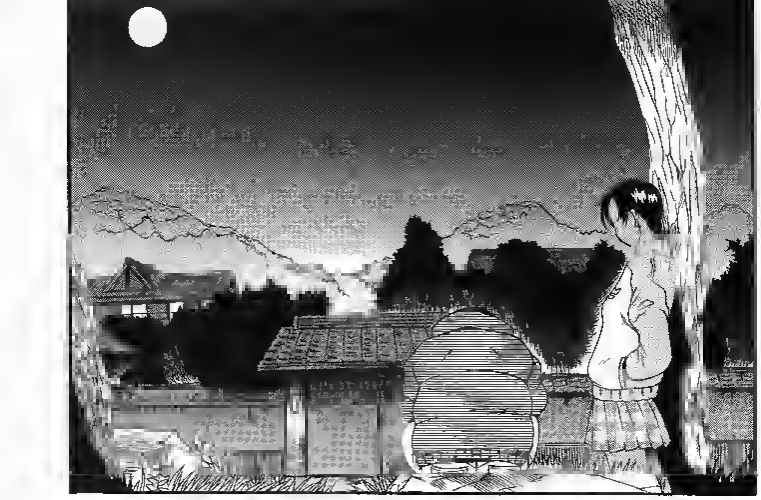
AFTER ALL... I'M "SHIMIZU AGEHA."
SQZ
SAD SMILE AGAIN.
RRRRRING
JUMP

OSA-NAI-SAN!
OSA-NAI-SAN!!
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE THIS IDIOT HAS CAUSED...
HEY!! STAND UP, TSU-TOMU!!
OSA-NAI-SAN!
OSA-NAI-SAN!
OSA-NAI-SAN!!
OSANAI OSANAI-SAN!!
DON'T YOU GET IT BY NOW?
GROW UP!!
THERE'S NO ONE NAMED "OSANAI" HERE
CRINO
SLUUU

AGEHA!!!

AGEHA !!!
AGEHA !!
?
Mm..
AGEHA..
AGEHA! AGEHA !!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR LAST NAME !!
YOU ARE ALWAYS AGEHA, RIGHT !?
BEFORE WE MET!! WE MET!!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR REASONING AT ALL!
DON'T GO SELFISHLY TURNING IT INTO A DREAM!
IT WAS PLENTY REAL ENOUGH! FOR ME !!
THE LIFE I HAD WITH AGEHA!! IT WAS ...
AGEHA ...

AGEHA!! LISTEN TO ME!!
NOT MY PROB LEM.
I COULDN'T SAY THIS FOR SO LONG..
DRIP
DRIP
ME TOO !!
YOU ARE TO ME!
AGEHA, I!!
I!!
Say it! Go on, say it!
AGEHA !!
I LOVE YOU !!!!
[CASE 8 : Big Confession!! End]



HAA... *breath

You're seriously going to get sick having sat here for 3 days and 3 nights.
Why don't you go back to the Inn at least once
I told you I'm fine... Besides

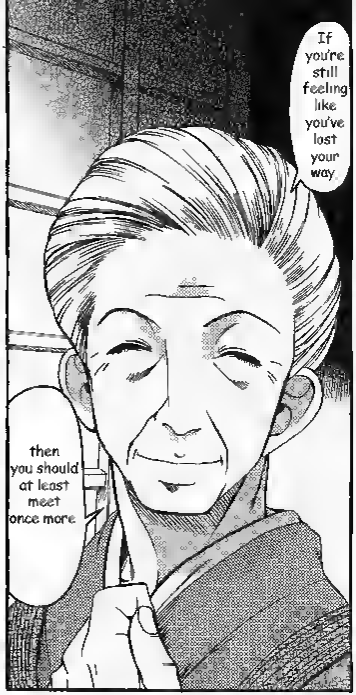
KOSU-KOSU *rubbing

年上ノ彼女

Once I raise enough money
I'll come back here again
No matter what
there is something I just have to say to her
No !!
If it's about the lodging then some how
I've got no more travel funds left ♡
Carrying luggage for free that could be enough
Ah_ No because that's our business
But
Some-how
Uuun *hmm
If that's no good
then I'll go back to Tokyo
I'll try holding out here just one more day
Tsu-tomu-san ?
?
I'm not really impart-ial but
I'm sure !! that this gate will open up once more !
I'm sure it'll be all right !
Thanks

Tomorrow I have club activities so.
I'll come and bring you some food in the morning. ♡
All right bye
Won't you go out and meet that person ...
Mother !!
He's still trying his best ..... out there, isn't he ?

So- I'm so sorry! although I had finally said I'd come back
Mother ... I'm again causing you such grief ...
I'm
No, Ageha-san
That isn't what I'm asking of you
Sure
now ...
Since Tsutamu-kun is still young he hasn't been able to see the circum-stances around him
At his age, he's suppose to be looking for a more wonderful girl
Now if we meet again and get back together
Again it will end up being a mistake
Ageha-san ...
HAa...
There-fore to fix that mistake
This old me has to be strong ...
Ageha-san...
Aren't you still young enough ...


If you're still feeling like you've lost your way
then you should at least meet once more

I guess it's my fault
I
But

To come back here! To always be by your side Mom
It was my decision !!

You've always taken care of Toshiaki and me...
M-Mother! it isn't your fault !!

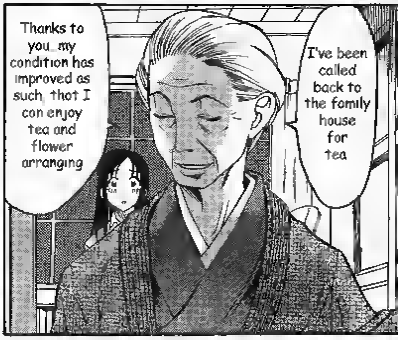
not see Tsutomu-kun anymore
and to

It has been planned that just Kaoru and myself will be staying over night there
Ageho-san

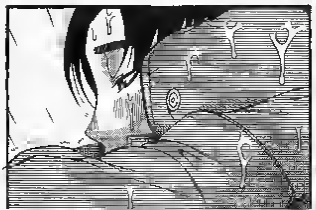
……
To-mor-row

That's why Mother
please don't worry about me

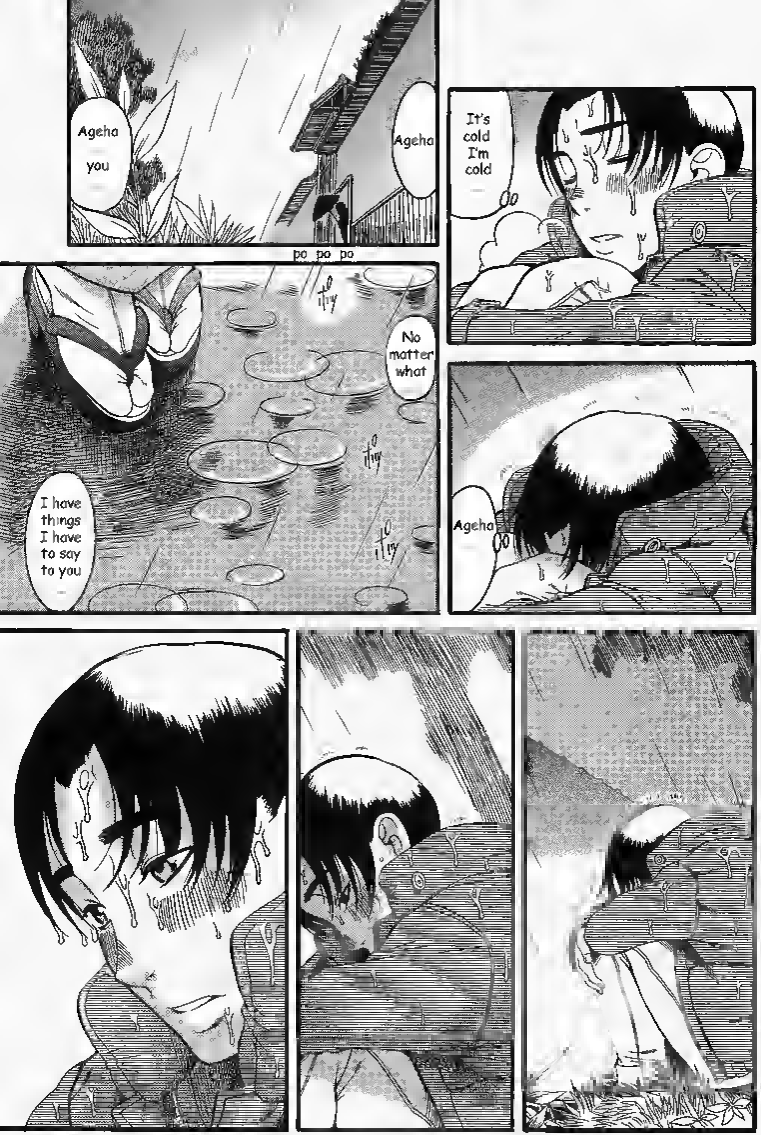
To-morrow you'll be alone
Mather


Thanks to you, my condition has improved as such, that I can enjoy tea and flower arranging
I've been called back to the family house for tea

PO Po PO
*draps



SAa.
*rain
I have thought about this and,
whatever you want to do, do it
….


Ageha
you
Ageha
po po po
It's cold
I'm cold
No matter what
I have things I have to say to you
Ageha

年上ノ彼女
Overflowing Feelings
CASE.9 想いはあふれて…
……
Idiot
…
Yea
…

From outside you probably could see the storage house — over there
wipe
wipe

Don't you recognize it?
…Ah!?

Long ago
When I returned to my Grand father's house
Before... When I heard about your dream I thought it might have been
before my sister died
something was eatting at her a little
I heard once from her
that in the store house she was able to make a very nice friend
I snuck into this place and in that storage house
But although she played with him he left crying
she laughed at me
I felt miserable embarrassed and scared
Tsutomu-kun that female image that you've laid on me
With all my might I ran away from her
Probably that was my sister I think
That
was it

At the university when I first met you Tsutomu-kun
you took an incredible interest in me. So,
I wanted to cure your impotence and such. Your feelings
I used them. I used you in order
Agehasan
I wanted to experience those things as soon as possible !!
to have a fun student life!
to have a normal romance!
It's a terrible story, isn't it

Tsutomu-kun
Agehasan !
even though you saw my sister in me.
I used you for my own purposes
You understand that, right

I could-n't bear to face you !
So! I ...
FUWA *gentle movement
I lied straight faced! I used you!
I ... I can't forgive myself !!
Ageha-san ? Please listen to me ...
Ageha-san
I!! I'm a cunning woman !!
JITA-BATA *flaying
The story of your dream! that some day I'd have to leave you all !
Even though I knew about it all, I just kept silent !!
The storage house
until you told me about it, I didn't recognize it
I had forgotten about it ..... anyways.. those things just now ...

the dream that storage house and
your sister What's more important than those right now
Is you ‖ Ageha !
Right now I was desperate to see you
But
But I
Because now your feelings for me
No matter what I feel that I understand why you wanted me
It was because you felt insecure huh

You wanted to do something about that insecure feeling,
anything right
I remembered how we got to know each other
Sitting there three days straight
I always sought physical contact
It was like having an older sister
TON *soft impact
I wanted to have a normal romance
It was like we were playing house.
ZUZUZU
I was just a kid so I was caught up with my things my impotence
such that I didn't realize
PETA *flop

you couldn't understand left from right
For me the possibility of having a normal student life and a normal love life were continuing worries
Also this was your first time having a student life
your first time living alone
For the first time you tried running out of the country
Unh
It's that isn't it ?
GUZU GUZU
Ageho-san you felt betrayed by the husband you had loved
When I think about the causes of your feelings
I feel a real pain in my chest
I regretted what I did
I tricked myself by taking on an adult pose
even though you were desperate to make your insecure feelings known to me

I should've realized !
It was because of my youth
that I was late to realize I'm sorry
Ageha

Ah
Ah
Hah
Hah
Unh
Ah
Unfuh
Ah
Un..

You're cunning Tsutomu-kun !!
When saying those things to me..
I
I
...I think, what's the matter.
I can't give you up Tsutomu-kun

DOKU DOKI
Today .... here
DOKUN-DOKU
Take me, Tsuto-mu-kun
GOKU *glup
SU
Eh !?
Tsuto-mu-kun
DOKI DOKU
CHUPA
GYU
No — me — you

Your
is erect
DOKI DOKI
Tsuto-mu-kun
Be cause I've de-cided
Be cause I want to have sex with you!
to stop running away from you
Uhn!?
I-
I'm ready
DOKI DOKI
GYUMU

Uhn♡
Uhnh
Tsutsutsu
Tsuto-mu-kun…
Hm
Tsuto-mu-kun…
Haa
Tsuto-mu-kun…
Tsuto-mu-k…
Tsuto-mu-kun…
CHU RERU
Ah
Ah
Tsuto mu…
Uh ch♡
Ch
Ah!
SUu
No!
not there

BIKU
BIKU
Tsu-to-mu-kun!!
Na !!
KUNT
FUNI
Unn !! ♡
Aah ♡
KYUu
JTKUu
ZOKU
ZOKU
Unh !!
FURU
BIKU
Haa
I said
That's why !
A-!? Age-ha
JITA
BATA
KA~
~~A
Ah !!?
Tsuu
You're
wet
TORO...
For a long time
I've wanted

For a long time ...
I've waited for you, Tsutomu-kun ...
KYU
the whole time after we met ...
DOKUN

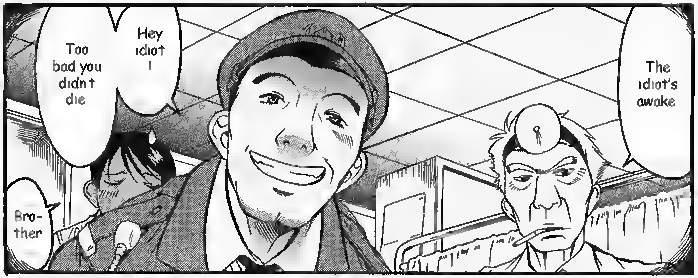
Are you nervous ?
Yes
KYU *grab
Ah !!
Tsutomu -kun
This hardness
This warmth
Ah
HIKUN HIKUN
Urh !
TSUUU
I feel the same way
It's okay

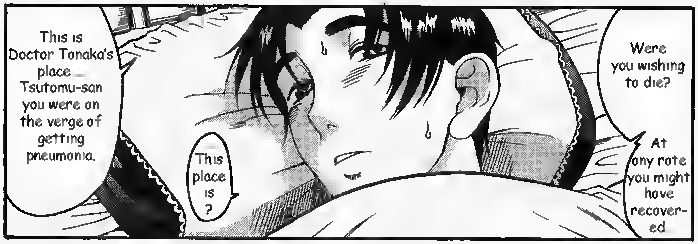
Unh
No
But
you're wet here
I'm not saying that
KAA
My
wettest part
GUu
Aah
Tsu-to-mu-kun
KAJI *bite
the tip
I'm still just feeling
He's incred-ibly hot
Tsu-tamu-kun
Tsutomu -kun ...?
?

Tsu-tomu-kun ?
Under that cold sky being hit by rain
He's ex-tremely hot
Tsu-tomu-kun !?
Tsu-to-mu-kun !!?
A Doc-tor !
I hove to coll o Doctor
In my miser-able con-dition
Tsu-tomu-kun !!
Tsu-tomu-kun
As I thought he's burning up
ゴロ…
GORO

the next time I opened my eyes
was the next day I was in a sick room
[CASE.9　想いはあふれて……　おわり]

年上ノ彼女


Too bad you didn't die
Hey idiot !
The idiot's awake
Bro-ther


This is Doctor Tanaka's place... Tsutomu-san you were on the verge of getting pneumonia.
This place is ?
Were you wishing to die?
At any rate you might have recover-ed

W...well she stayed by your side all night
Uh
A-geho-san ?
The gossip has become pretty lively and
Didn't you say you intended to return to Tokyo ?
What good timing
Besides you've already by yourself disrupted the peace of this town
your consti-tution took a huge dip
So, you better go to Tokyo and get a check up to be sure
In the morning she return-ed
with the helper from the Shimizu house

On the Train...
CASE.10 列車の中で…
年上ノ彼女(ヒト)

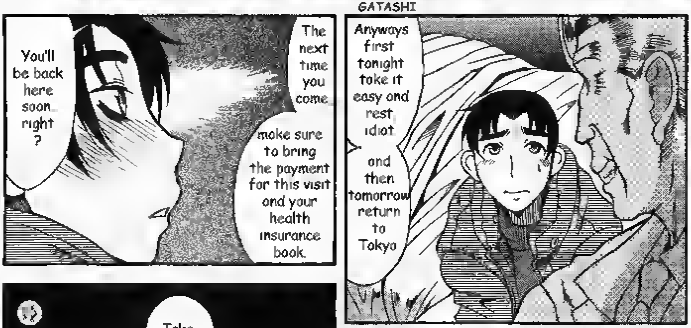
When I received your call I thought na way!!
Agehall you
Here !!
you brought a man here !!
To what extent da you want to worry madam When will you be satisfied !!
that man
On a whim you run away from the mansion
On a whim you snag a man
You really are duplicit, Ageha.
ぽろ…
ぽろ
ぽろ
ぽろろ
You took advantage of my worries, kindness
Just because you wanted that man, you'd do anything !!
In spite of the fact that it could have been any man !!
CHIKU

Madam
She only has you
Age-ha -san
No matter how much I cherish
Madam and the memories of Toshiaki it isn't me it's you...
so please
for Madam's sake
Doctor Tanaka's Clinic
9:00am - 5:00pm
田中医院
診療時間
9:00
~
17:00
BIKU
Give it up young one
your weaker than you think right now...

年上ノ彼女②

I'm saying that as a Doctor!
So, sit over there and
listen to an old man's story
FU—
When she was young she was beautiful and had a precise mind
Without being asked by the men and women of the village she was popular She was nick-named Madonna.
Mi-chan... ah no,
I mean Old lady Shimizu.
So when she was soon married into the Shimizu household everyone had complex feelings about it
People thought no way...
until they saw her with husband and son you knew
You already know the story about how she was bedridden
after her son passed away

After her husband died
she always only thought of protecting that household
Since Mi-chan's the only one left
She needs Ageha-san
I can't say you should split up
But what I can say is...
we need to have more recklessness and resolve like...
you...
GATASHI


You'll be back here soon, right?
The next time you come,
make sure to bring the payment for this visit and your health insurance book.
Anyways first tonight take it easy and rest, idiot
and then tomorrow return to Tokyo

Take care of yourself!
Kid

Oh yeah...

I

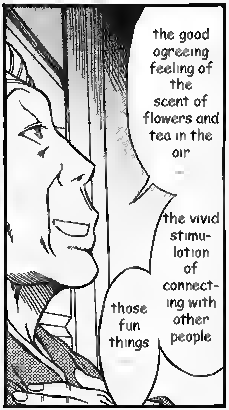
Agehasan
If you don't have the face to meet me
I still would like you to listen through the door

I had fun at the tea party in the old family house

I was down for a long time about Toshiki about you
everyday I'd always think back upon those things
Until now, I had forgotten

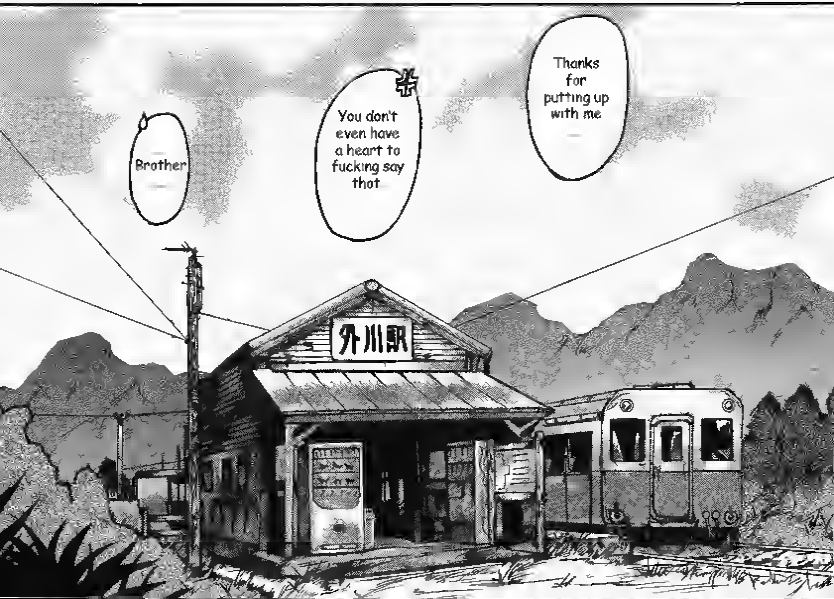
that is what
I wanted to convey to you

those things that you've felt in the outside world for half a year
I was finally able to remember them


the good agreeing feeling of the scent of flowers and tea in the air
the vivid stimulation of connecting with other people
those fun things

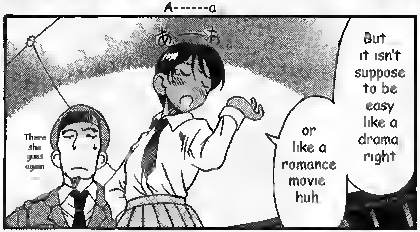
Well
with that, good-night
oh
oh yes there is one more thing
Doctor Tanaka said that tomorrow on the 12 O'clock train
he'll be returning to Tokyo

Tokawa Station

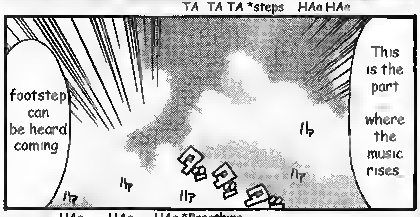


now is too late to be saying that You've already done it
Idiot!
But... I've been a bother to a lot of people and
Yea
Tsutomu-san you are going to come back again aren't you

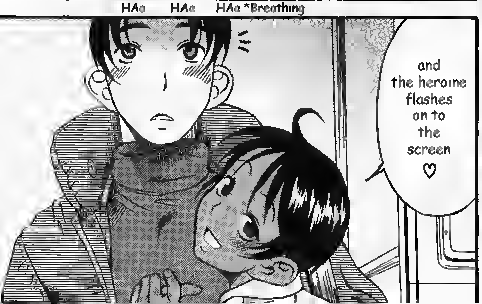
A------a



TA TA TA *steps HAa HAe



HAa HAe HAa *Breathing

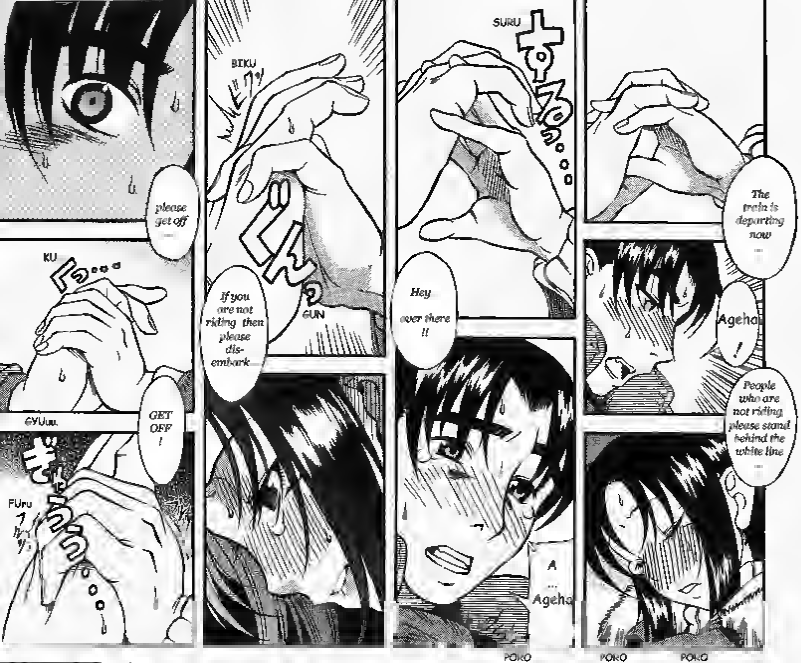


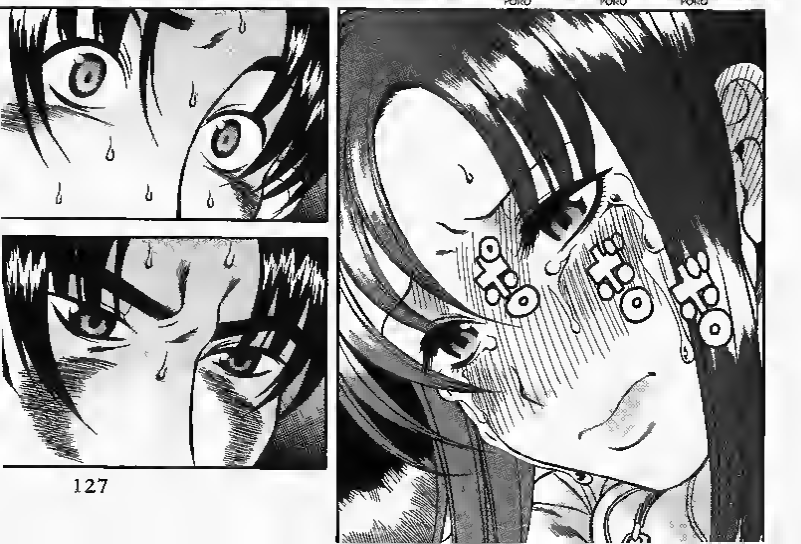
ha
a
ha
a
ha
a
ha
a
ha
a
ha
a

A
geha
She came
Ah
I'm glad you made it
Agehasan
Ah
Together
su

I
JIRIRI
RIRIRI
RIRIRI
*train scraping
Ageha-san
JIRIRIRIRIRIRI
Hurry
hurry
I'm sorry

Please take care of your self
You came all the way here Ageha-san to say those
those words
But
me
us


please get off ...
KU
GYUuu.
GET OFF !
FUru
BIKU
GUN
If you are not riding then please dis-embark.
SURU
Hey over there !!
A ... Ageha
The train is departing now ...
Ageha !
People who are not riding please stand behind the white line ...
POKO
POKO
POKO



!!
GUI *Grab
PUshu *door close

年上ノ彼女②
Heeey Ayaka ?
KATAN KOTON.
GATAN GOTON
Right Aya
He fucking did it
Ayaka ?
GATAN GOTON
*Train
H-
GATON
GUSU GUSU
Why do you wont to cause trouble for me!!
I wish
we could of parted there and mutually fargatten about each other !!
I-I'm sorry !! but
POKA POKA POKA
What !!
What will I do, Idiot!
A Age- ha !!
You olways do what ever suits you

But !! for me, Ageha you are the best
Tsutomu
you should find a good girl-friend!!
instead of a horrible woman like me !!
Tsutomu-kun
I need to face my past here !
I ! I'm that old !
GATA N
But !! Ageha !!
you !
you came to see off Tsutomu-san
Doesn't that mean you love him !? That you can't give him up !?
maybe you're okay
B-but you !!
You don't have such experience in love to say that!!
Since you don't know girls,
you were deceived by the likes of me!!
Fool !! Idiot
HAH!

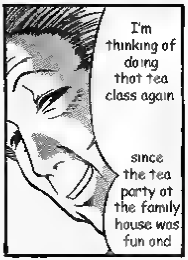
I
our fond family memories will
PORO
PORO
you shouldn't blame him
Right now what's here is just
me
as for Mother
Both the past I enjoyed
And the painful memories
since I didn't bring anything
GATA-N
GATA-N
GATAN
We're very grateful for butting in
I'm sorry
But you are the daughter-in-law of the Shimizu's Mi-chan right ?
You
I'm sorry that was the old man next to me
ガタン
ガタン
Your concern for Mi-Chon is admirable
Mi-chan
and us are very happy for that
But :
If you're using that excuse I feel sorry for Mi-Chon

When you took care of Mi-chan
It became difficult for her to seperate herself from the memories of her dead son
so, I think
It's time you should think about yourself first
But...
For the Mi-chan now huh
I expect that Mi-chan became conscious of that don't you think so ?
That reminds me isn't this Mi-chan's new resolve
Mo-dom
Please could you send Agehos luggage to Tokyo for me
Ma-dom...
It's fine to stop thinking too much about her as staying here already
Modam ?
She's gone
I was right — he's a good person
Kaoru -san ?
Ageho-san !!
She left eh
her shoes aren't here

I

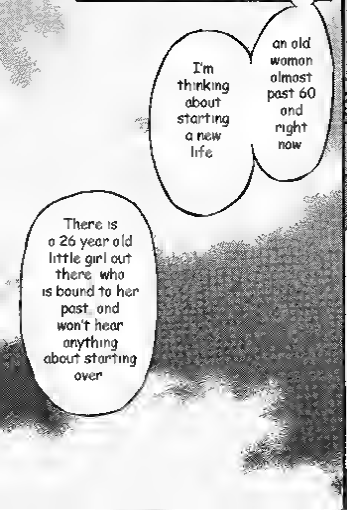
As for me
from now on
I
and
then

Ageha-
san
from
now
on
was
suppose
to
be
here
Ma-
dam


I'm
thinking of
doing
that tea
class again
since
the tea
party at
the family
house was
fun and

I'm

over the
past several
days
I've
been prodded
by friends
in town
about when
I'm going
to reopen
the class
If that
happens
I'll surely
be very
busy
everyday
Certainly
I will not have
time to think
about Toshiaki
and
Ageha-san


an old
woman
almost
past 60
and
right
now
I'm
thinking
about
starting
a new
life
There is
a 26 year old
little girl out
there who
is bound to her
past and
won't hear
anything
about starting
over

Kaoru-son if it's fine with you
I would like to receive your assist-ance with the Tea class
Of course ♡
GUSU
DON
Hey Look alive! kid
Mother
sorry for being so cold the very first time we met
that time I was just thinking about Mi-chan yo know
But

DOKI DOKUN
Right now pull it together
for the Mi-chan now, and for this girl now
You can do it !! Tsutomu-san !!
That woman's probably fallen in love
DOKU DOKUN
DOKU
A-...
Age-Ageha-san...
Ageha-san...
...I love you.

GATAN
GOTON
SAWA..
Ageho though I said I didn't know anything about your past
I do know lots of things about you!
Half a year ago, even though you just chose me by chance
Now is different
And I'm different
Although you're older... you're child-like...
you're strong on the outside, but you're core is delicate and
you're selfish and jealous
you sulk get angry... and cry
but that smiling face is incredibly cute and
your quite a bad drunk !
as for seasonings you like to put them on thick and...
you prefer dinner parties over bread and
you really like clothes with frills
I can come out with a lot more
because we lived together for half a year

you are surprisingly active and
you have a strong sense of duty
You are able to cherish the feelings of other people
GYU
When you're worried about something you keep it to yourself but
your always positive and can solve it...
Your wrong Tsutomu-kun !!
I'm not that good of a woman !!
Well if you can become that wouldn't that be good enough!

As for me !
I will try my best to become
the man you want me to be !!
ぎゅっ♥
so
even for us
isn't it enough that from here on we still can change

I'm... I'm sorry!?
I !!
although you're younger you're lecturing me !!
you're showing off !!
you
I am a jealous person !
I know that well enough
TON
I fancy your small figure !!
My chest is very small and ....
I'll think about you 24 hours a day !
If you don't pay attention to me, then I'll sulk !!
soon I'll be become a grand-father too !
I'll grow old ahead of you and become a grandma !!

let's go back to Tokyo together
Let's apology to Mother together
and admit our love
Ageha-san
and
Please ... be my
older girl-friend ...

WAA!
*roar of the crowd

[CASE.10 列車の中で… おわり]

AGEHA!!
DO
KU
DO
KU
Tsu-to-mu-u♡
Tsu-to-mu-u u♡!!
TOKUN
TOKUN
TOKUN
TOKUN
TOKUN
TOKUN
Ah…
…ah
BYUKU
BYU♡
TOKUN TOKUN TOKUN
DOSA *plop
TOKU *loud heart beat
Tsu-tomu-kun
Inside of me
I feel your warmth♡
TO-KUN
TO-KU♡

Tsutamu-kun!!
you bastard you didn't even call!! I was wondering if you died!!
Return that 10,000YEN I lent you!! Explain your current situation!! When are you returning?
What happened to Osanai-san?
I'm sorry
I got into a bunch of trouble and
I thought about calling but
That and! The money I borrowed from Hayashi the 5000YEN
Oh right now? We're on the station platform We're waiting for the express to Tokyo.
And? What about Osanai-san?
As for Osanai-san, that ... and this ... and we meet ... and that...
she's by my side.
And now...
年上ノ彼女

Hey Ageha-san
we'll return
Ah... ummm
same-time today
You did it!! So when are you guys returning? Here we are preparing a party for you, after having waited for you guys!! You won't be able to sleep cuz it's going to go on for three days and three nights, dude ♡ !!
What happened?
Did he hang up on me?
he said "everyone is waiting!" and
he also said "we'll have a party"
It will last for 3 days and
Pi!

CASE:11 初めての夜…

The First Night

年上ノ彼女（ヒト）

We're sorry. For this season most of the rooms have already been reserved...
this room is a little small but...
No! We're sorry it was sudden
As for dinner, the dining hall is open until 7PM
Well please take it easy
No it's all right. I pressed us to come here after all ♡
PETA
Since I didn't have any money on me
I'm sorry you had to take care of the lodging fee
Umm

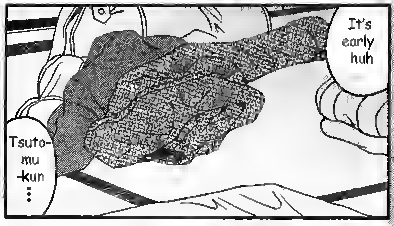
GURI
*noogies
GURI
Ah but I wonder if it was good to come here
FURA
I did tell them we'll be back by today but...
POMU
Well.
...
Don't get me wrong that's great! I'm happy about it!
and so they'll throw that long party
...
If we return right now everyone has been waiting for us
...
But, you know.

DOKI
DOKI *heartbeat
Well ...
if it's like that, then ...
KURI KURI
we won't be able to be alone right?
Um ... well ...
Agehasan that
GOKU *gulp
If you say that I ...
GU! *grab
Well I I
might not have any reason not to any more

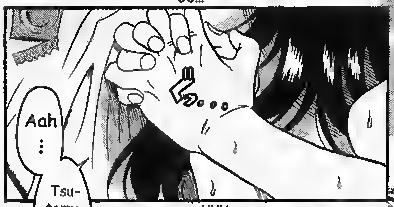
…
Me
too

Wah !!?
Ah ...! aa aah
FURU
ZOKU ZOKU
Unh ♡
CHURU
CHUPU
RERU
RERO
KUCHU
CHIPA
CHUMUMUMU
your gradually push it in
your finger
Even
BURU
CHUKU
CHUKU CHU
Hey
UNH
UNHHU
Please please touch me
No before that
already before we entered this room

From when we were waiting on the platform
No! From inside the train
I was always overflowing.
No... It was further, further back...
It was since we first met again.....
Please...
FURU
Tsu-tomu-kun...♡
HAMU *bite



GU...



UNH

NUFUN

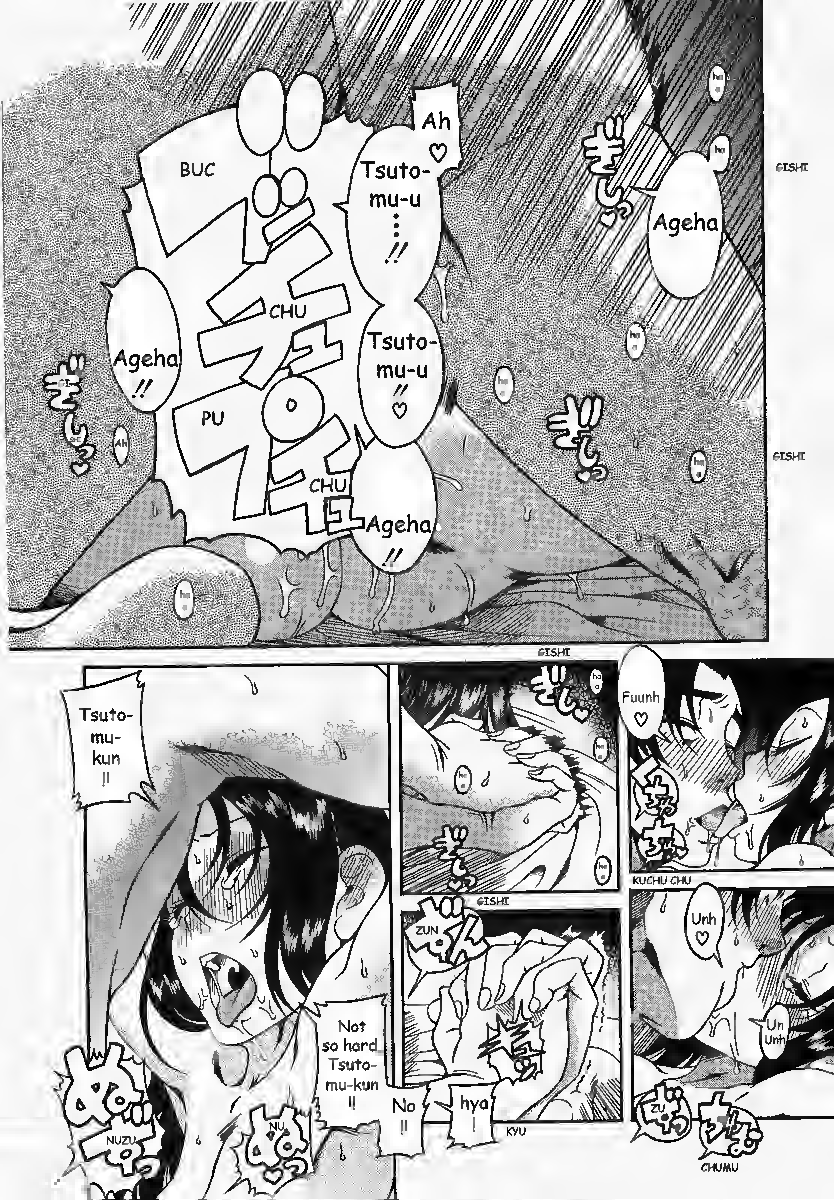
きてっ…

please come

ZU
BU
PU
PU
PU
NU
NU
NU
NU
Aaa aah !!
Haaa aah ♡
Hya- !! aaah ♡

KAA
GUSU GUSUN
BIKU BIKU BIKU
GYUMUMU KYUUU
TOSUN
FURU FURU
KYUMUMU KYUN
ZOKUZOKU
GUSU GUSU
ZOKU
ZOKU ZOKU
St-!!?
Stop!
Unh♡
Guh!
Yah!?
GAKU GAKU
GAKU GAKU
Ah!!
BIKU
KYUMU KYU
あ…
Although I'm older than you
I just
came ahead of you
Wha? Oh- Okay?
I'm sorry Tsuto-mu-kun

S-Sorry I I only
GUSU
How cute
Th-This
This... tightening
This... means you're feeling good, huh Ageha
?
No
I I
I'm happy
KAA
KYUN KYU
KYU.. KYUU..
T-that I m able to make you feel good now
Knowing that you feel good
Makes me happy
though I too was ready to cum
Tsu-tomu-kun Hey!
Do me more♡
KYUN


Ah ♡
Tsuto-mu-u ……!!
BUC
CHU
Ageha !!
Tsuto-mu-u !! ♡
PU
CHU
Ageha !!
GISHI
GISHI
Tsuto-mu-kun !!
GISHI
Fuunh ♡
KUCHU CHU
GISHI
ZUN
Unh ♡
Un Unh
Not so hard Tsuto-mu-kun !!
No !!
hya !
KYU
NUZU
NU
ZU
CHUMU

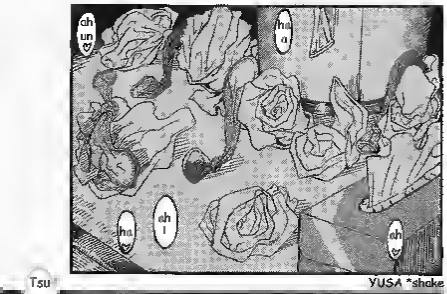
Tsuto-mu-kun…
Unh♡
GISHI
Ageha
BIKU
HIKU
Tsuto-mu-u
BURU BURUN
A-ge-ha
JU NUPU
Tsutomu
Ageha
No!!
GISHI
I'm going to…
please cum
GISHI
A-A-Ageha
ZUMUU
ZU CHU

I also know what's inside of me right now
I can pleasure you as well Tsutomu-kun
is the symbol of how good you felt
It makes me cry because I'm happy ♡
I'm happy that I was able to meet you Tsutomu-kun ♡
Becoming your girlfriend and being able to express our feelings for each other by doing this

makes
me
happy

UNN
? what's the matter ?
e heh heh heh ♡
KA AI
Well ... I didn-!
Umm! .. Ahh!
CHON
Tsutomu-kun, your
is still inside of me
and it got really hard again ♡
GUN
Let's do it again
okay ♡
BIKUN

年上ノ彼女②


ah un♡
ha a
ha a
eh i
eh e
YUSA *shake

Tsu tomu-ku…
Tsu-tomu-u
YUSA

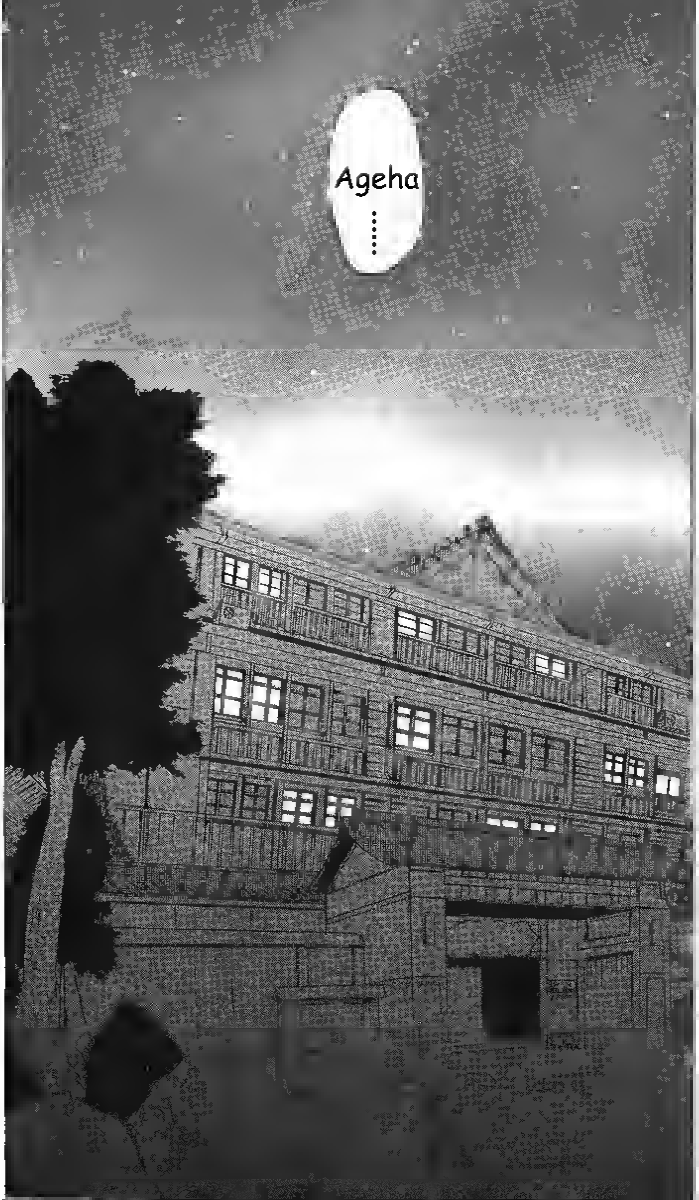
Ah !!
zu
Aaa ♡a
HAPU

Un Un♡

WAI
WAI WAI
WAI *noise/talk
ITOU TSUTOMU
OSANAI AGEHA

No, not there !!
RERU
Aa ♡
TON
Ah ♡
Un !!
TON
TON
TON
Hya ♡
Unh ♡
TSUu...
CHU
PO
Unh !! ♡
Aah here !
GYU
TON
TON
No aah !! ♡
KU ♡
No
GURIN
KUCHUN
GURI

CHUPU
CHU
CHU
Ageha !!
Ah ♡
Tsutomu-kun !!
Aa ah ♡
Tsutomu-kun !!
Tsutomu-kun
KUCHU
MUCCHU
NUCCHU
Tsutomu-kun !!
KYU
Tsutomu-ku
Unh Unh !!
Ah !!
UNCHU
UNH
♡A-ge-ha
A-ge-ha


Ageha
……

CHUN...
CHUN CHUN...
CHUN. *chirping
チュン…
チュン チュン…
チュン
KYORO KYORO
*looking around
キョロ
キョロ
GABA!
Ageha
!!?

Wha…!?
What's the matter Tsutomu-kun?
Ah I'm sorry you were sleeping so deeply
So I just took a bath by myself
Well that and…
I kinda noticed the smell… of sex… sweat and…
and
Umm……
Tsutomu-ku…n?
GA
BA

I'm so glad ...
please, never !!
go away again ...
Ageha ....

Ah
Tsutomu kun .... I_you know ....
KOTSU
Aah! Well... this... umm.
This is morning wood!! I- I...
umm .....
It's okay Tsutomu -kun
So
You want to do it again?
GURI
GURI
Meanwhile in Tokyo
They're late

[CASE.11 おわり]

BONUS COMIC "Stood up"

おまけマンガ　待ちぼうけ

I wonder where they are now
...not responding to calls and...
Shit Tsutomu kun you bastard !!
They're late all right ...
Hey! that area is suppose to have a lot of hot springs right
They might have wanted to stay overnight at one of them huh.. ♡
over-night...
lodging at a hot spring
.....

Are you okay Tsutomu kun ?
KUSHUN *Sneeze
They are doing it ... right now... aren't they
←やってました "They have been doing it"

Well today it seems it's just you and me left ♡
Asa in Female Teacher outfit
"Woman Teacher" or "Female Teacher" which sounds better to you ?
N- now this is kind of short
Morino in Sailor uniform
For a girl that likes cosplay this is a natural choice probably
The color of the neck and sleeves should be a cheap imitation red ♡

Hello this is Ryuta Amazume.

I'm glad that this volume of Toshue no Hito came out so quickly. For me who has done nothing but sketches until now, reaching a 2nd volume is a first for me. Speaking about no. of pages in general, it's just over 300 pages now. I do intend to continue drawing the story of Ageha and Tsutomu but I'm busy with other things...

However! As per my original arrangment I thought about cramming the story into one volume but then it'd be a scary story. Especially in this volumes episodes I thought I could end it in 30 more pages. The truth is it may take 3 times more. It's hard to decide what to compress what is necessary etc. in an episode. No no, from now on, from now on, I will try to do my best... (continued next page)

Aya-Chan in Gothic Lolita outfit I wanted somebody who was energetic because a lot of the other characters were in coats and jumpers That energy shown through her school uniform Surprisingly this character doesn't seem to hate this kind of clothing It might be because I drew it on her... Or just that she finds the frills ...agreeable.
How is this brother don't you think it's cute ?
Isn't this kind of strange ?
I- I've never worn this kind of clothing before
Kaoru in maid uniform
In the first phase I thought about putting her in a maid uniform However I thought in the end it would be too unrealistic so I gave up on that idea.
Still a severe maid with glasses is pretty nice huh

When I say from now on, with this volume, the story I thought from the beginning is just about over... ...The truth is the story will still continue. ...From now on I'd like to give Marino some happiness draw out the back story of Fukumizawa.

Maybe, , Hayashi and Asai's XX also... ...
Finally, I'd like to thank the people that have helped with creating this manga. Ende, Sugimura, Nozakumo, The Professor and Tomoda. Also I'd like to thank all the people that have taken an interest in my comics

Ryuta Amazume

次巻予告!!
年上ノ彼女
Mysterious Love Comedy
ついに結ばれた努とアゲハ。
そして始まる二人のラブラブ生活…♡
ますます盛り上がる二人の愛は…
内緒♡
アゲハのセクシー水着も!
Presented by
甘詰留太
ミステリアスラブコメディ
扇情の第3巻は
2005年秋発売予定♡

年上ノ彼女（ヒト）

Toshiue no hito

●初出一覧

CASE 6 行方不明‥‥‥

Toshiue no Hito
Scanlation Notes
Vo2, C06

The main character decides to stop being an indecisive wuss and actually makes a decision about which girl he wants? It's moments like these that make you realize that Toshiue no Hito is *seinen* manga rather than *shounen* manga--which is to say, it's targeted to an older (male) audience. In Ichigo 100% (a classic example of shounen manga, scanlated in part by animewaves), it took 167 chapters to get to this point. :P

The "seinen" entry at wikipedia.org has a fairly good list of other seinen titles if you're interested.

PG05

Pass or Fail

The Japanese education system typically uses "pass or fail" criteria rather than scores or letter grades for important occasions--such as final exams.

PG06

Home for New Year's

As mentioned in last chapter's notes, New Year's, not Christmas, is actually the big winter holiday in Japan. Public offices close on Dec 29th, and everybody takes at least three days off at the beginning of the year, returning to work on Jan 4th. Japanese New Year's customs and rituals are too numerous to list, but you've undoubtedly seen some of them in manga and anime (going to festivals, visiting shrines on New Year's Day, etc.). Most importantly, however, New Year's (particularly New Year's Eve) is a time to be spent with family.

PG11

Okaa-sama

Kaa is mother, with an "o" on the beginning for an extra degree of formality. "Sama" is a formal honorific that indicates the highest degree of politeness and respect.

Toshiue no Hito

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#animewaves@irc.rizon.net

TRANSLATOR

deathwisher

PROOFREADERS

Jiji

relentlessflame

The Mighty Highlord

RAW PROVIDERS

Jiji

Gitamiii

EDITOR

Waxmaker

special thanks to deathwisher for cover scanning & touch-up

Toshiue no Hito
Scanlation Notes
Vo2, Co7

There's been a distressing lack of bath scenes and fanservice in recent chapters. Thank goodness this chapter is here to make up for it. Oh, and there's a good story in there too.

Ryuta Amazume certainly enjoys drawing scrawny girls, but for those of you wondering, Aya-chan *is* supposed to be a senior in high school.

PG36 **OKU-SAMA**
"Oku" woman of the house. Usually used to refer to another person's wife. This is one of those words that is always automatically in polite form, because of the built-in "o" in front ("oku" is one kanji, and means both "heart" and "interior"--the woman is seen as the heart of the home). A woman running a shop might also be called "oku". "sama" is added here to indicate extreme formality/respect. In this context, roughly equivalent to "madam".

PG40 **KATSUDON**
A bowl of rice served with a sauce made of broth, eggs, onion, soy sauce, mirin (sweet rice cooking wine) and a little sugar, with a breaded, fried, sliced pork cutlet on top. A staple for Japanese students, to the extent that individual pre-breaded, pre-cooked cutlets are available for purchase in grocery stores. Wikipedia reveals another joke here. "Katsudon is also a stereotypical food offered by a detective to a detainee who is being questioned about a case."

PG41 **ONII-SAN**
"Nii". Older brother, with the "o" prefix added to create the polite form of the word.

PG43 **3000 YEN**
3000 yen. About $27 USD. Not bad even for the "mouse room."

PG42 **OBENTOU**

A BENTOU...OR BENTO--HOWEVER YOU PREFER TO SPELL IT--IS SIMPLY A MEAL PACKED IN A SPECIAL COMPARTMENTED BOX (A BENTOU BOX). IT'S MOST OFTEN EATEN FOR LUNCH, BUT TO THINK OF IT STRICTLY AS A "BOXED LUNCH" ISN'T CORRECT, AS IT CAN BE PACKED FOR ANY MEAL.

PG42 **CHIKUZEN-NI**

A DISH THAT COMBINES SAUTEED CHICKEN AND VEGETABLES SIMMERED IN BROTH. A SAVORY MEAL, EXCELLENT FOR COLD WEATHER (BUT COOKED YEAR-ROUND).

PG53 **BUDDHIST MALA**

THE STRING OF BEADS IN AGEHA'S HAND IS MOST LIKELY A BUDDHIST MALA. PRAYER BEADS, SIMILAR TO THE ROSARY BEADS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. THE PRIMARY RELIGIONS OF JAPAN ARE SHINTOISM AND BUDDHISM, WHICH HAVE CO-EXISTED QUITE HAPPILY IN JAPAN FOR ABOUT 1500 YEARS--IN SOME DEGREE DUE TO THE EMPHASIS OF SHINTOISM ON THIS LIFE AND OF BUDDHISM ON THE NEXT. JAPANESE OFTEN TURN TO ONE OR THE OTHER AS APPROPRIATE FOR THE OCCASION, AND BUDDHIST FUNERALS AND FUNERAL RITES ARE QUITE COMMON.

Toshiue no Hito

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EDITOR

Waxmaker

Toshiue no Hito
Scanlation Notes
Vo2, Co8

We continue with our saga of compelling societal and interpersonal struggles juxtaposed with... naked bath scenes. You can't say *this* manga isn't working on more than one level.

pg11

I can't go back to Tokyo

In Japan, when a woman gets married her name is moved from her family's "koseki", or family registry, and added to her husband's koseki. She has formally switched families at that point. Takes her husband's last name. Is traditionally expected to transfer most of her loyalties to her new family. And when she dies, will be buried in her husband's family grave.

The eldest son has a special responsibility to his family name, however--and to his parents as well. Traditionally, it's his job to stay in his parents' house. Take over the family business (if there is one), and look after his parents in their old age. When he marries, his wife is expected to agree to all this, and is "received as a bride" ("yome o morau") into her new home (the home of her husband's parents) having outlived her husband. Ageha feels that it's her job to take over his responsibilities in this regard.

These ways of thinking follow very old, traditional customs in Japan--Ageha was obviously raised in that kind of environment. In modern Japan, however, the more extreme (and even some of the not-so-extreme) forms of filial piety are becoming less and less common. "Kids don't look after their parents like they used to!" is a frequent lament among Japan's elderly these days.

pg12

I'm a widow

Due to the traditional emphasis on family loyalty in Japan, there can be complications for a widow wanting to move on to a new serious relationship (even disregarding the family responsibilities that Ageha feels she has). From a 1960 study: "Men frequently feel that a wife who was properly devoted to her first husband would have difficulty transferring that devotion to another man and a wife who was not properly devoted to her first husband would be less likely to make a good wife for anyone." Naturally, in modern times, concerns like these aren't nearly as weighty as they used to be. Nevertheless, Japanese widows are still frequently stereotyped as promiscuous based on the assumption that casual sexual relationships have no such problems.

FIRST NAMES

THE CONCEPTS OF INSIDE (UCHI) AND OUTSIDE (SOTO) ARE INTEGRAL TO JAPANESE RELATIONSHIPS. SOMEONE ON YOUR PERSONAL "INSIDE" IS SOMEONE YOU CAN INTERACT WITH INFORMALLY AND PERHAPS ADDRESS BY FIRST NAME--A "SHITEIRU HITO", OR "PERSON YOU KNOW."

SOMEONE ON THE "OUTSIDE" IS SOMEONE YOU ADDRESS WITH MORE FORMALITY--A "SHIRANAI HITO", OR "PERSON YOU DON'T KNOW." *MOST* PEOPLE FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY. EVEN IF YOU'VE ACTUALLY "KNOWN" THEM FOR YEARS. AN ONLINE GUIDE TITLED "HOW TO TELL IF YOU'RE JAPANESE" STATES: "THE ONLY PEOPLE YOU CAN CALL BY THEIR FIRST NAMES ARE LITTLE CHILDREN, YOUR SIBLINGS, COUSINS, FRIENDS FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND PEOPLE YOU MET IN BARS."

THIS IS A ONLY A SLIGHT EXAGGERATION. AS A SIDE NOTE, THERE ARE ALSO MANY "INFORMALLY FORMAL" TYPES OF PERSONAL ADDRESS. FOR EXAMPLE, PEOPLE YOU MEET IN BARS OFTEN TELL YOU TO CALL THEM BY A NICKNAME. THERE'S ALSO THE EXCEPTION OF OVERLY-CASUAL PEOPLE WHO BLITHELY IGNORE FORMALITY AT WHIM.

IN A RELATIONSHIP, SOMETIMES THE BARRIER OF FORMALITY CAN DISSOLVE QUITE QUICKLY IF BOTH PEOPLE FEEL A STRONG ENOUGH CONNECTION. SOMETIMES IT TAKES A WHILE.

BUT THE BARRIER OF SENIORITY IS ALSO A STRONG ONE IN JAPAN. OLDER SIBLINGS FREQUENTLY ADDRESS THEIR YOUNGER BROTHERS AND SISTERS BY FIRST NAMES ALONE, BUT THE REVERSE IS NOT AS COMMON. YOUR SENPAI AND YOUR ELDERS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE ADDRESSED WITH FORMALITY AND RESPECT, PARTICULARLY AT WORK AND AT SCHOOL. THIS IS THE ADDITIONAL BARRIER THAT TSUTOMU HAS FACED WITH AGEHA.

BY CALLING HER BY HER FIRST NAME AT LAST, TSUTOMU IS ACTUALLY ASSERTING TWO THINGS. HE'S TAKING THE STEP TO BRING HER "INSIDE", CLAIMING A DEGREE OF CLOSENESS HE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO ADMIT BEFORE (IT'S ALSO RELEVANT THAT AGEHA HAS NEVER *INVITED* HIM TO CALL HER BY HER FIRST NAME). HE CLARIFIES HIS FEELINGS A SECOND LATER BY TELLING HER THAT HE LOVES HER.

BUT HE'S ALSO ASSERTING HIMSELF AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND *ELEVATING* HIMSELF TO HER LEVEL AT THE SAME TIME. HE BRUSHES ASIDE THE BARRIER BETWEEN THEIR AGES IN ORDER TO CLAIM EQUAL STATUS IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP.

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Special thanks to raize for help with the endnotes!